

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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Summary of News.

Monday, 8th June.

THE oldest historical tree in the world, says Sir E. Tennent, is the Bo tree of Anurudhapura in Ceylon. "It was in full vigour more than 400 years before Christ. Asoka preserved it from the jealousy of his queen Tishyarakshita. In 500 A.D. Amar Singh built the well-known temple of Buddh Gaya. The tree went through all the processes of growth and decline, and its life was not altogether extinct even in the year 1887. An offshoot from it is still growing on the spot where the Buddhist pilgrims found it. I brought a few leaves from it when I visited the place on Christmas day in 1883. In the year 245 B.C. Sanghamitta, the sister of Mahinda, Asoka's son, carried with her to Ceylon a branch of this tree and planted it at Anurudhapura, and it is still flourishing, in that island, its age this year being 2,136 years."

THE London correspondent of the *Bengalee* writes:—"I have a deuce to report to-day over which I cannot drop a tear, nor I think, need any lover of India grieve. *Allen's Indian Mail* departed this life two days ago. Major Fenwick brought out his last issue on May 6th. Its last leading article consists of a severe attack on the Congress, its British Committee, the news-paper *India*, and the Editor of that paper. *Allen's* has always been more Anglo-Indian than Anglo-Indians in India, and has met the fate it deserves. In announcing his "happy despatch" the Editor says:—"The causes which have brought about the end of the *Mail* now, sad as they are, need not be referred to here." They are not referred to elsewhere and the public are left in the dark as to the real reason of the paper's death. Clearly, however, its circulation was not good or the heart would not have ceased beating. *Allen's* goes to its grave unlamented."

A curious theory is current as to the cause of the influenza as prevalent among parliamentarians. It is stated that the disease was introduced simultaneously into Yorkshire and London. Several weeks ago it was brought to Hull by a steamer from the Baltic, as soon as that sea was re-opened for navigation. The germ was introduced into London at the same time in the Foreign Office despatches from St. Petersburg. Lord Salisbury, who opened the despatches, was at once attacked, though he did not know at the time why the disease was. He communicated the infection to the other Ministers at the Cabinet meetings. They in turn transferred it to the opposition across the table in the House, and so it spread throughout the whole House. Not only were the members attacked, but all the able clerks were down with the disease at once, and the clerks from Committee Rooms had to be brought into the House to perform their duties. Many Foreign Office clerks have suffered.

THE returns for the export trade of India during the month of April show some remarkable variations on last year's figures. Over 35,000 tons of wheat left the country, the increase in value being some 37 lakhs of rupees. This, however, was far more than counterbalanced by an enormous falling off in the export of raw cotton, the shipment of which fell from 1,221,000 cwt. to 855,000 cwt. the difference in value being about 1,57,00,000 rupees. With variations in other commodities the total value of the exports thus fell by slightly over one crore.

THE *Times* writes:—"We are not likely to hear for some time to come of any decision being pronounced by Government on the Kashmir railway scheme. Of the four routes which have from time to time been suggested two can only be considered practicable from the financial standpoint. They are the Jhelum Valley route and that by way of Pampur and Abbotabad. As regards the former it is believed that the cost of the maintenance would be very great indeed; as to the latter it has much to recommend it on strategic grounds apart from commercial considerations. The Government of India can scarcely pronounce finally upon the subject until they are in possession of full surveys and detailed estimate both of original cost and annual maintenance. Mr. Johnson, the Engineer who has been placed a special duty in connection with the railway project, has his survey parties busily engaged, but he can scarcely hope to have his report ready before next October."

Tuesday 9th June.

THE London Society for the Encouragement and Preservation of Indian Art have affiliated with themselves the Industrial Association of Western India. The first practical step which the London Society has taken to encourage good art work in India has been to address a letter to the Government of India, requesting them to purchase the best specimens of it when making complimentary presents to Native Princes, and the *Bombay Gazette* understands that both the Supreme and provincial Governments have given favourable consideration to the suggestion.

We readily make room for the following letter, which speaks for itself:—

Sir,—I beg to bring to the notice of Government that Rai Kali Pada Mookerjee, Bahadoor, who was in temporary charge of Baraset Sub-division, in the district of 24-Parganas died on the night of 25th May last. He was laid up with simple fever, which rapidly developed itself into a typhoid character. While he was a prisoner to his room and greatly suffering from physical and mental prostration, he applied to the District Magistrate for leave of absence for two weeks to enable him to come down to Calcutta for treatment, which was not allowed him. He then sent another message to the Magistrate, soliciting casual leave for six days which was due to him under the Leave Code, and was quite ready with his luggage to start for Calcutta, only eagerly waiting to receive the Magistrate's reply; even this was not granted to him. The refusal of this leave went like a shot to his heart at the advanced stage of his illness which caused his death. In his eagerness to do his duty, Rai Kali Pada Mookerjee, Bahadoor over heated himself, and was seized with a malignant fever, of which he died without proper treatment in a solitary district. He was a very valuable officer of Government. I, on behalf of his two widows, beg most respectfully to request that Government will be good enough to hold a judicial inquiry into the matter, and take prompt notice of the conduct of the Magistrate through whose vindictiveness such a valuable officer lost his life in the execution of public duty.—Yours, &c.,

HURISH CHUNDER MOOKERJEE.
Bhowanipur, June 2, 1891.

Fairy tales are full of legends which tell of lakes which sprang into being at the touch of a magic wand. But in these matter-of-fact days a sheet of water, the origin of which is quite as mysterious as any of these mythical tales of folk-lore, is worth nothing. On the older maps of Central Asia, the Sea of Aral is portrayed with a deep arm, described as the Gulf of Aibugher. But when the Russians passed it on their march to Khiva in 1872-73 they found only a depression on the area so marked. Yet Colonel Koslowski, in again exploring the region, finds the hollow occupied by a fresh-water lake, separated from the Aral by a ridge of clay, and fed by a stream which, although not in direct communication with any branch of the Amu-Daria, drains the marshes formed by the overflows of that river. The most probable origin of the new Lake Aibugher is that it was in earlier days an arm of the Aral Sea, but that this was dried up in the course of that general dessication to which Central Asia is being subjected. Then, by an overflow of the Amu-Daria, the hollow was filled, and a ridge formed between it and the Sea of Aral by the silt brought down by the feeding stream. However, as the new lake has no outlet, the evaporation being equal to the inflow, it must soon again become salt.

THE Lahore paper says:—"We have already noticed the commencement of hostilities between Umra Khan of Jandol and the Khan of Nawagi's confederacy in the capture of Shukratahi by the latter. About seven days ago, we now learn, an attempt was made by Umra Khan in person to recover it, but he failed. In the fighting about forty casualties are said to have occurred." Since the foregoing was written, news reaches us of an unexpected success for Umra Khan, which, if true, will go far to equalise matters if it does not drag the Mehter of Chitral at once into the combination against him. It appears that Muhammad Ashraf Khan, a brother of the ex-Khan of Dir, and a son of the ex-Khan, had, with a force from Kohistan, managed to get possession of Shiringal, a Dir territory which belonged to Umra Khan, by treachery; but the latter, hearing of it, at once sent men under his brother Muhammad Shah Khan to retake the place; whereupon the inhabitants again changed sides, through fear, and not only surrendered to Muhammad Shah Khan but seized and gave up the Khan of Dir's brother and son, who have been carried off as prisoners to Bajaur."

Wednesday, 10th June.

On the 5th instant Mr. J. P. Warburton, District Superintendent of Police, Sialkot, Punjab, filed a complaint in the Court of the District Magistrate of Lahore against Sirdar Dyal Singh, Majitha, resident of Lahore, and proprietor of the *Tribune* newspaper and press, Lahore, and Sital Kant Chatterjee, late editor of the paper. The complaint is in reference to matters left undisposed of by Mr. Kennedy on the former complaint.

FLESH-EATING Locusts.—Some time ago we heard a "tall" locust story told by a native in Kulu about a baby having been eaten up by locusts. The following, on the same lines, comes from a European correspondent at Gujranwala:—Half the trees in the station have scarcely a leaf remaining; and a few days back you could not walk a hundred yards without trampling on thousands of locusts, who, as soon as they were dead, were attacked and eaten by the living ones. But all this is nothing when we come to think of what happened in the harvest season. A native woman in one of the neighbouring villages left her infant a little way from a field, while she was reaping. She heard the child cry, but thinking it one of the usual fits of crying she was so accustomed to did not trouble about going to pacify it. About an hour later, when she came out, the baby was dead, a great portion of its flesh having been eaten by the locusts.

THE *Subodha Patrika* says:—

"The advancement of a community depends not merely on the improvement and elevation of its moral maxims, but also on the quickening of moral sensibility." This is a historical truth, not a mere sentiment or speculation or theory. The observation just quoted is Mr. John Morley's, and he illustrates it by referring to two historical facts. He says:—"The Greeks became corrupt and enfeebled, not for lack of ethical science, but through the decay in the numbers of those who were actually alive to the reality and force of ethical obligations. Mahomedans triumphed over Christians in the East and in Spain—if we may for a moment isolate moral conditions from the rest of the total circumstances—not because their scheme of duty was more elevated or comprehensive, but because their respect for duty was more strenuous and fervid." The condition of the Hindus also furnishes an apt illustration of Mr. Morley's remark. So far as our moral maxims go no one can gainsay that they are generally speaking of the grandest and the best. The "ethical obligation" of the *Bhagavad-Gita* and the religious and moral ideals of the *Upanishads* are both soul-inspiring and spirit-stirring. Nothing can excel their sublimity or excellence. But it is because the Hindus never looked upon those ideals as binding upon them in practical life, because they never were "quickened" by their moral maxims, that they have lapsed from their ancient state of high civilization. What is the principle, which now guides and has for ages guided the Hindus? It is this—"Though a thing is good, yet it should not be done if it is contrary to custom." It is true that the *Bhagavad-Gita* and the *Upanishads* inculcate morality of the highest type but the Hindu lives and moves as if such morality were never meant for him. So long as he keeps the outward appearances of orthodoxy, he is safe, however much he violates the rules of caste in secret. He may drink liquor, if he likes, but drinking liquor is no sin. It is the life of hypocrisy, this shameful bargaining with vice and sin, that has led to the deterioration of Hindu society. What it wants is not "moral maxims." They have been laid down in its best books. What it wants is "the quickening of moral sensibility."

The *Subodha Patrika* is the organ of a Metaphysical school, whose teachings have not been much appreciated by the Hindu community.

In the House of Commons Sir W. Hart Dyke introduced the proposals of Government in respect to free education. It is proposed to divide the sum of one million mentioned in Mr. Goschen's last Budget equally between the Board and Voluntary Schools at the rate of ten shillings for each scholar.

A company of soldiers while being drilled near Berlin was struck by lightning. Several of the men were severely injured.

THE KHOJAK TUNNEL may now be said to be so far completed that it would be possible to pass through it in a broad gauge train, should the necessity arise.

THE Chamber of Deputies has resolved to admit fresh cocoons of raw silks free of duty. On manufactured silks a duty of three hundred francs will be imposed.

Thursday, 11th June.

THE House of Lords has passed the Bill, prohibiting sealing in Behring Sea until May 1892.

THE Calcutta Pauperism Committee has begun operations. Sub-Committees have been formed, and a census of the paupers in Calcutta, Howrah, and the Suburbs is to be formed, while statistics of charities are also to be collected. Among the questions to be considered are the further opening of the avenues of employment, and the possible extension of the power of the law in dealing with professional paupers. The Committee, it is hoped, will be able to suggest some means of improving the conditions under which the poor live,—the teaching, training, and housing of the European and Eurasian paupers.

A MEMORIAL has been framed by the Madras Missionary Conference drawing the attention of the Local Government to the abject condition of the Pariahs and other low castes in the Province. It is suggested that a Commission of Inquiry should be appointed for the purpose of investigating the whole question of the relative position of Pariah and mirasidar, and of recommending legislation on the subject. In defiance, it is said, of the Indian Penal Code, the mirasidars still induce Pariahs to sign documents "surrendering the liberty of themselves and children, thereby becoming their actual slaves." Their property is further illegally seized for debt on the strength of agreements which they are fraudulently persuaded to sign; they are pitilessly rack-rented as sub-tenants, practically excluded from the protection of the law, and as a result of centuries of disability "have now sunk into a condition of helpless degradation. The defects and vices of their social life give to their degradation a rigidity which makes all improvement appear hopeless if they continue to be left to themselves." Missionary philanthropy has done many a mischief before this.

RAIN has fallen in the Malabar district, probably improving the prospects of the district.

A CONTEMPORARY writes:—"When the Hon'ble Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter declared it as his opinion that it would be much easier to prove puberty than age, he was laughed at by Sir Andrew Scoble and his friends and his opinion, founded on long experience, was dismissed without due thought. A case has now cropped up in Mymensingh in which a young man had acted violently towards his child wife. In course of the trial, it became necessary, as a matter of course, to ascertain the wife's age. In the Bengali Doctor's opinion, she must be eight or nine. The European Civil Surgeon would think the girl to be above ten. The witnesses also disagreed, and variously said the age to be nine, eleven and twelve." Here is a stern fact, and we would direct attention to it of all those who differed from the Hon'ble Sir Romesh on the point.

THE *Weekly Inter Ocean*, a paper published in Chicago, thus writes on the Benares riots:—"This may be a serious matter, and it is scarcely right to thus outrage the religious people of Hindustan. Even for better water accommodation such an act of Vandalism is more in accordance with Spanish than with Anglo-Saxon civilization, which has always spared the temples and antiquities of those countries it has conquered in its course. Twenty-five centuries ago before Babylon was struggling with Nineveh for supremacy; before Rome was founded by Romulus, or Tyre was planting her colonies; before Greece had contended with Persia, or Cyrus had added lustre to the Persian Monarchy, Benares had risen to greatness if not to glory. And even now when most or all of these cities are obliterated by the ravages of time or sunk in the dust of ages, her temples and stately shrines remain, and it would be little less than a shame to Britain if those ancient relics should fall by the ruthless hand of the modern vandal and utilitarian. Water works are very useful to all cities, but here at least, they can scarcely be compensative for so venerable and so great a sacrifice apart entirely from the prospective danger from disturbing the fierce prejudices of the large native population."

THE curious custom of swearing on boiling oil is yet said to be practised in Ceylon. A case of this kind is now before the Ceylon Court. It appears that an aunt and nephew decided to swear and a chatty of oil was placed on the fire in the compound of the aunt, and when the oil was boiling, the nephew was called upon to perform the ceremony of laying it on the palms of his hands. The young fellow hesitating and going backwards it is alleged that the uncle took hold of the youth and not only dipped his hands into the boiling oil, but threw the oil on him. The victim was taken to the Hospital. Evidence was entered into, and the accused is out on bail.

SEVERAL sharp earthquakes have taken place in different parts of Northern Italy, chiefly in the province of Verona, where a number of houses were thrown down by the violence of the shocks. Several persons were killed and many injured.

Friday, 12th June.

How nice it would be if one could sit in one's study and by means of a telephone hear the sermon of any clergyman one liked. This, as a matter of fact, has been accomplished for his Holiness the Pope by a Belgian inventor, and the telephone is switched on, according to the Pope's wishes, either to the service proceeding in any one of the churches in Rome, or to the great halls of the Italian Parliament, so that he may be kept *au courant* with the speeches that are being made. This very wonderful mechanism has received the name of the Eglisophone. Just conceive of what a development this invention is capable, and how delightful it would be to realise, as in that curious book, "Looking Backwards," the possibility of hearing music or preaching whenever one liked by the simple means of holding up a pipe to one's ear or turning a button.

THE Chinese Department of the British Museum library contains a single work which occupies no fewer than 5,000 volumes. This wonderful production of the Chinese press was purchased a few years ago for £1,500; it is one of which only a very small number of copies is now in existence. It is an encyclopædia of the literature of China, covering a period of twenty-eight centuries—from 1100 B. C. to 1700 A. D. It owes its origin to the literary proclivities of the Emperor Kanghe, who reigned from 1662 to 1722. In the course of his studies of the ancient literature of his country, Kanghe discovered that extensive corruptions had been allowed to creep into the modern editions, and he conceived the idea of having the text of the originals reproduced, and preserved in an authorised form. This was a mighty conception truly, and in the execution it remains unique to the present time. For the purpose of carrying out the work, Kanghe appointed a commission of learned men to select and collate the writings to be reproduced, and employed the Jesuit missionaries to cast copper types with which to execute the printing. The commission was occupied for forty years in its great task. Before the work was completed, Kanghe died but he had provided that his successor should see the book completed, and he faithfully carried out his trust.

QUEEN Victoria of England, and Elizabeth of Roumania, are perhaps the two best cultural personages among the royalty of Europe; and a recent exchange of gifts between them is really worthy of high character. Queen Elizabeth of Roumania is a poet of no mean order. Born little less than fifty years ago, in Germany, she had, while very young, become acquainted in her parent's home with the chief writers, poets, scholars, and artists of the day and had at a very early age developed "a great gift for poetical composition, writing verses with facility before the age of ten." In 1865, she married Prince Charles of Roumania, and at once "entered with her characteristic energy into the life of the Roumanian people, to study their customs and to understand their thoughts and aspirations." During the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-78, in which the Prince Charles and his brave Roumanians so greatly distinguished themselves, "Princess Elizabeth worked day and night in the hospitals, sustaining by her presence the courage of the dying and the wounded and setting an example which was followed by the Roumanian women in the most unselfish manner. "She helped to bind up the wounds herself, and did not even recoil from those at the sight of which even men could not help shuddering. How many of the dying received the last words of comfort from her lips! Many of them would take chloroform only from her hands, and she alone could persuade many of the wounded to undergo the necessary amputations." Her remarkable talents, her great personal beauty, and her rare powers of sympathy have endeared her not only to her own people, of whom she is truly called the mother, but to all with whom she has ever come into contact, and the gift she has recently sent to Queen Victoria,—namely a volume of her poems, written by herself on vellum, each page being exquisitely illuminated,—a present that has been made in recognition of the attentions which she has received when she visited England last autumn, is preeminently worthy of herself. The Queen of England has in return sent her a copy of Theodore Martin's *Life of the Prince Consort* and the two volumes of her own *Highland Journals*, all splendidly bound.

THE Chief Justice, Allahabad, condemned severely the procedure of the Sessions Judge, whose method of recording evidence and supervision of the procedure of the Court generally, the Chief Justice felt constrained to say, had been characterised by serious irregularities. The case has been transferred to the Sessions Judge, Farukhabad, who, the Chief Justice says, will proceed to try the case according to law.

THE Portuguese Chamber has passed the new convention settling the rights of territory in South-East Africa.

Saturday, 13th June.

CALCUTTA will soon have an experimental installation of compressed airpower, similar to that which is now so extensively used in Paris, Birmingham, and other towns of Europe. Its primary and principal use in this country will be for the working of punkahs, both in large offices and in private houses, and as a means of cooling rooms and liquids both readily and cheaply. In Paris it is largely used for regulating clocks, and for supplying power to sewing machines, printing presses, lathes, electric lighting, and indeed in every direction where small powers are needed, and where steam engines would be either inconvenient, or too costly. Another direction in which it will be of great use in Calcutta will be that by the use of a simple form of "injector," our water supply could be sent up to the top of our highest houses and cooled at the same time. It is said, we understand, that Mr. Lee, the Chairman of the Corporation, is taking much interest in this matter.

ANOTHER shooting affray, in which two British officers figure prominently, is reported from Hyderabad. It appears that Lieutenants Sexton and Davidson, of the Hyderabad Contingent, stationed at Bolarum, went out shooting near Indore, in the Nizam's territory. What precisely occurred is not yet known, but both officers were seriously assaulted by villagers. An enquiry is proceeding.

We regret to announce the death of Babu Keshab Chandra Acharya Chowdhury of Mooktagacha, which took place on the 1st of June last in Benares. Babu Keshab Chandra was one of the leading zemindars of Mooktagacha and a wakil of the Allahabad High Court. He was greatly respected by all who came into contact with him.

THE Bombay Government has decided to appoint a small Commission to inquire into the Rajabai Tower affair. It is said that Major Humfrey, Special Police Officer in Kattywar, who has been called to confer with the Governor at Mahabeshwar, has been appointed one of the members of the Commission; the other members being Mr. Vincent, a former Deputy Commissioner of Police in Bombay, and Mr. Dhunjishaw Dadabhoy, Superintendent of Police, Tanna.

SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE contemplates carrying out an extended scheme of irrigation works in Upper Burmah. The works will involve the creation of a special irrigation circle and the expenditure of some twelve lakhs a year for some years to come. Sir Alexander Mackenzie has also asked for large additions to the permanent staff of the ordinary Public Works Department in the province.

INFORMATION has reached Vienna that a marriage is going to be arranged between the Cesarewitch and Princess Helen, the fourth daughter of Prince Nicholas of Montenegro. The Princess, whose beauty is generally admired, is to leave shortly for St. Petersburg accompanied by her parents. The marriage, it is said, will take place in the course of December next. This news (the *Times* correspondent says) is so surprising that without further confirmation it can only be accepted with reserve, but if it turns out to be true the close family alliance between the Czar and his only friend would be an event of great political importance, and one that could not fail to give the highest possible satisfaction to the Slavist world.

THE *Spectator* says that there is nothing in the recent 'Miniature General Election' to discourage the Government from dissolving this autumn, provided it can carry the Irish Land Purchase and the Free Education Bills before Parliament is prorogued. Nothing would embarrass Mr. Gladstone more than to have to declare frankly how he intends to carry out his pledge to the Irish members. If Government succeed in carrying the two great measures it would be unwise to postpone the dissolution beyond the present autumn.

LOCUSTS are committing ravages in Egypt. Swarms have been appearing in various parts, especially in Upper Egypt. These have already done some damage to the growing cotton and maize crops, but the fear is that the destruction will be greater when the bulk of the deposits of eggs are hatched. The Government authorities are giving advice and orders as to the best means of coping with the evil by ploughing and flooding the lands on which the eggs are covered.

THE sentence passed upon Miya Singh, the Manipur Major, who was wounded when the Manipuris attacked Mor Grant's party, has been commuted to transportation for life.

ON Monday morning at 7 A.M. Subadar Niranjan Singh, a sepoy of the 34th Bengal Infantry, was hanged in front of the main west gate, at Manipur. He ascended the scaffold with the greatest coolness and stood erect and motionless at attention until the drop fell. He insisted that he had been betrayed and died fearlessly.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 1891.

THE TRIAL OF THE MANIPUR PRINCES.

THE TRIAL OF THE SENAPATI.

An additional charge in the indictment against the Senapati was made as follows:—"That you on or about the 24th of March in Manipur committed murder, *vis.*, the murder of Mr. Quinton, the Chief Commissioner of Assam; Colonel Skene, 22nd Goorkha Regiment; Lieutenant Simpson, 43rd Goorkha Regiment; and Mr. Cossins, Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner; and thereby committed an offence punishable with death or transportation for life, an offence within the cognisance of this court." The Charge was read and explained to the Senapati. He pleaded "not guilty", and filed a written statement of his defence.

The Court then subjected the Senapati to a severe cross-examination with a view to elicit the nature of his relations with the late Manipur affairs. The first few questions were aimed at bringing out the part he had in mustering the immense force of 6000 men, which was present in the palace on the 23rd instant. The Senapati replied, that there were all kinds of parades required for the Chief Commissioner, that there was not more than one thousand men, who were followers of all four brothers, that he could not say how this one thousand swelled to six thousand on the 23rd, that he never saw more than a thousand, and that the people came in. He was then asked why was ammunition served out on the 23rd; to which he replied that he was sick and could not say that any was served out. When asked, whether, when Mr. Grimwood explained to him that he would be deported, and also that, in the event of non-compliance, he would be arrested, he had warned his troops not to oppose British troops, if they should come to his house; he said that he had told Mr. Grimwood that he would obey the orders of the Government when he should be well, and said also that he was never told that he would be arrested. Question was put to him, that, when he went out to the top guard on the night of the 24th to protect the Chief Commissioner and party, and when he saw Mr. Grimwood and others killed and wounded, why he did not conduct the party to the gate and see them out safely. He replied that he could not do so, as there was much firing going on. He explained his own inaction in not warning the sentries on duty in the Durbar house that they were responsible to him for the safety of the prisoners, when he heard of the Tongal General's orders that the prisoners were to be murdered by saying that he was tired and fell asleep. In answer to a query he stated that he first heard of the murder of the Chief Commissioner's party, when he awoke on the morning of the 25th. The Senapati strongly insisted on the Tongal General being liable to obey him. "The Juvaraj's order is paramount; but the Tongal is allowed a good deal of power." And then he said that, when the messengers went to him saying that they could not obey the Tongal General's order to murder the prisoners, without confirmation from him, he told them on no account to obey the Tongal's orders. He could not account for the fact how they came to be afterwards killed. He said that when he returned to the Durbar Hall on the night of the 24th, he had a conversation with the Chief Commissioner and party who were there, in the course of which he told the Chief Commissioner that there was nothing to fear. Then he makes two statements, contradictory of each other, once saying that he saw that Mr. Grimwood was dead under the steps and then saying that he did not know that Mr. Grimwood was dead. He declares that Mr. Quinton did not ask him for safe conduct out of the fort. According to his statement, it was by him that the order for the "cease fire" on the Manipuri side was given, but he did not think of bounding the "cease

fire" in order to give the Chief Commissioner safe conduct to the gate. The reason why he gave the order for the "cease fire" was, that he was there in command. He made arrangements for the care of the prisoners by putting them in charge of Anagao Minto, and thought that he would take care of them. He did not know, who commenced firing again, when the meeting in the Pat was over and the Shahibs were prisoners. He did not again give the order "cease fire," when firing did commence, as he was asleep at that time. One question was put to him in this form:—"What was your intention in keeping the Chief Commissioner and party prisoners?" To this he replied: "I kept them because there were many armed men about. I intended letting them go in the morning." On being asked why he thought that others would prevent him from taking the Shahibs to the outer gate, when the three or four hundred men who had attacked the Shahibs and killed Mr. Grimwood, so readily obeyed his orders, he replied that he did not take them and that was all. The Juvaraj is the head of the Home Department, the Senapati is the head of the War department. Since last September Tickendrajit has been the Juvaraj. He was asked whether he made any enquiries as to what had become of the dead bodies of the Chief Commissioner and party when he came to know the fact of their having been killed, he replied that he heard that their bodies were buried and made no further enquiries.

The above evidence was read over and explained to the accused, who admitted it as correct, and then witnesses were called for the defence.

The first witness, a native officer of the Manipur Army, confirmed the previous evidence up to the Durbar at the Palace in the evening of the 24th March, at which he was present, and deposed that he accompanied the Juvaraj back to the top guard. From there he heard a row and a shout of "I can't take the Shahibs away." The Juvaraj went out in a rage and drove away the people. Further on he says that the Juvaraj said to the people, "One Shahib has been killed, I will punish you afterwards for this. Look well after the rest." On coming back again to the top guard, the Juvaraj asked the Tongal, why he had given the order for killing the Shahibs. The Tongal replied: "What is the good of keeping these people? We cannot make it up with the Sircar." The Juvaraj said: "Don't talk like this. We will make it up and send a letter to-morrow." The Juvaraj then went to sleep. Early on the 25th, the Juvaraj got up. Witness then heard that the Shahibs were dead. On cross-examination, the witness stated that the Juvaraj after putting the Shahibs in the Durbar room, walked all round it examining the walls.

The second witness, another native officer, corroborated the previous witness as to the movements of the Juvaraj, and stated that the Juvaraj, in going round the parapet, told every one not to leave his post and to be careful not to fire. The witness confirmed the previous evidence regarding the Juvaraj's remark when informed of the Tongal General's order to kill Mr. Quinton's party, and also his conversation with the Tongal General in the top guard.

Another witness was the Subadar under Juvaraj's orders, who corroborated the statement of the previous witnesses respecting the Juvaraj's dealing in the Durbar Hall and the details of his conversation with the Tongal General. The important part of his evidence was as follows: "I am certain that Angao Minto came himself to the Durbar-house to tell the Juvaraj that he could not get the Shahibs out."

The next witness corroborated this man.

The last witness for the defence was Bolaram Singh, the Magistrate under the Maharajah, who was examined regarding the circumstances of the Juvaraj's arrest. He said that the Juvaraj was two days in witness's house. He was ill and told the witness to inform the Sircar. Witness informed Kulendra Singh, Subadar of the Police, who went to witness's house where the Juvaraj told the Subadar that it was his birth-day and an unlucky day, and that he did not want to go that day. The Subadar said he could not let

him go at all, upon which there was a dispute and a struggle with the Juvaraj.

The trial of the Juvaraj was concluded by the closing address of his Pleader, Janaki Babu. The prisoner exhibited, throughout the trial, a remarkable indifference to the proceedings going on. Judgment is now being prepared by the Court and will shortly be delivered.

THE TRIAL OF THE REGENT.

The same Court took up the trial of the Regent also. The Prisoner was guarded by two sepoys with fixed bayonets and being an enormously fat man was provided with a seat. Janaki Babu has taken up the defence in this case also. Chundra Singh, a Manipuri, acts as the Regent's interpreter.

The first witness for the prosecution, the Regent's Head clerk, stated that at a Durbar, held on the 13th March, it was decided to send 1000 men to oppose the Chief-Commissioner at Mao, but on hearing from Culcutta that the Ex-Maharaja was still there, this project was abandoned. Rusick Lal, the Political Agent's Head clerk, was then examined, and simply reiterated his previous statements at the Juvaraj's trial. He was instructed to write the letter which he wrote on the 4th April in terms favouring the Regent and other princes. Witness was obliged to include false statements in that letter in order to save his life. Witness saw no women and children killed. Witness did not see the Regent in the Durbar held after the catastrophe. In his cross-examination he testified to the help given by the Regent to the British Government. The next witness corroborated the former one respecting the Durbar held previous to Mr. Quinton's arrival and spoke to facts in connection with Mr. Quinton's arrival, his attempts to hold a Durbar, and his proposals for arresting the Juvaraj. Witness knew that preparations had been made to resist, as the women and children had been removed from the whole enclosure. The Political Agent saw these preparations himself. The next witness Angao Minto gave similar evidence to that given in the trial of the Juvaraj. Witness saw the Regent twice on the 24th March, at noon and at four o'clock sitting in the Verandah of his house. The Regent did not go to the Durbar on the evening of the 24th as he had not been warned. In his cross-examination, he stated that no salutes could be fired unless by order of the Maharaja, that Durbars could be held either in the Residency or in the palace, that the Regent had sent letters and telegrams to the Government of India asking for pardon, and explaining the event of the 24th March.

The next witness Jatra Singh deposed to what he had already said at the Juvaraj's trial and added that the ordinary number of Manipur sepoys stationed within the citadel was about 120 armed men and from 80 to 100 unarmed men. The total number was kept close to the Maharaja's palace. The reason why witness went to the Juvaraj and not to the Maharaja for confirmation of the Tongal's order to kill the Shahibs was that all orders were issued from the top guard and that witness had no access to the Maharaja. Witness saw the Regent twice on the 24th March, but could not say why the Regent had not come to the Durbar at night.

The next witness Usorba, after repeating at length his previous statements at the Juvaraj's trial, said that he did not see the Regent on the 24th, nor did he take the Regent's orders about the British officers, as he had no access to the Regent. In cross-examination, witness said that the Maharaja's brothers each had servants and followers, but that the army belonged to the Maharaja, that no guns were fired to collect Manipuri army, that he did not know how many men were in the fort on the 24th, and that he saw a salute fired when the Chief Commissioner arrived.

The next witness, the executioner, said that the Tongal General had ordered the executions to take place in front of the dragons, that the witness met with neither rewards nor punishments from the Regent.

Subadar Kulendra Singh gave evidence proving that all the important places, such as the

dragons, the durbar room, the top guard and the Regent's palace were comparatively close together.

Captain Butcher confirmed his previous statement at the Juvaraj's trial adding that when the Residency was evacuated witness's party was fired on, but was not pursued.

The case was concluded on Thursday and the Court adjourned till to-morrow, in order to give the Regent time to prepare his defence. It is expected that he will make a full statement of all he did on the day of the murders, his defence being that he was not consulted in any way, and did not even know that the Chief Commissioner and his companions had entered the palace till he was informed next day of what had occurred.

THE ENGLISH PRESS ON MANIPUR.

It is a phenomenon in the history of English political opinion, that newspapers in England, liberal as well as conservative, should have almost unanimously concurred in condemning the tactics employed by the Indian Government, or attempted to be employed by it, in its dealings with the Manipur State. We incorporate into an article, the views of some of the London and Provincial journals on this matter for the more convenient reference of our readers.

The *Times* says that while Mr. Quinton's under-estimate of the gravity of the situation at Manipur and his consequent inadequate provision of force are chargeable to him alone, the responsibility for the plan of summoning the Senapati to the Durbar and arresting him without previous notice, must be shared by the Government of India, which approved his proposals. The Government, however, cannot be accused of a deliberate design of treachery, but Mr. Quinton's plan was wanting in that frankness and boldness which constitute the moral strength of the British Empire. The same journal observes later on that the military conduct of the affair is as inexplicable as the political. How, when a retreat might have been effected in tolerable order, the senior member made a rash advance into the arm of the enemy is a mystery. Mr. Grimwood surely never advised this rash proceeding, as appears from Mrs. Grimwood's letter. Speaking of the Senapati's position, the same journal says that even from a technical point of view, the Senapati did not stand exactly in the position of a British subject. If he was merely an offender against Municipal Law, the necessity for a Durbar to arrest him is not apparent. To ask him to attend the Durbar was in fact to admit a *status*, which ought to have precluded the design of seizure. But whatever blame may be distributed between the Government of India and its subordinates, none can be thrown upon the Government at home.

The *Standard* declares that the whole series of dismal accidents arose from the determination to invite the Senapati to a Durbar and there arrest him. If the design of arresting the Senapati in Durbar, without apprising him in advance of the decision arrived at to seize and carry him off by force, is to be deprecated and disapproved, then there is no resisting the conclusion that it is in Calcutta that the chief responsibility rests. The expedient was not in accordance with the best traditions of the Indian Government in dealing with Feudatory Princes, and was wanting in that unmistakeable and unquestionable straight-forwardness, that ought to characterise our dealings with our subjects, of whatever rank, in the East.

The *Daily News* asserts that the papers establish in the most decisive way the responsibility of the Government for the disaster. They carry it back a stage from the Chief Commissioner of Assam to the Governor-General in Council, and the Governor-General in Council is, or should be, in events of this moment, the Government at home. Mrs. Grimwood's letter showed that the Political Agent was over-ruled by the Viceroy. The Chief Commissioner was a mere puppet in the hands of his Government. He was acting under their orders and in defiance of his own judgment.

The *Daily Chronicle* says that the disaster was due to the self-sufficiency and incompe-

tency of Mr. Quinton. It does not see that Lord Lansdowne and his advisers are to be much blamed for what has taken place, though he can scarcely be exonerated from all blame.

The *St. James's Gazette* observes that only the most obstinate official vanity could continue to deny that there was miscalculation at head-quarters, and mismanagement and weakness among the subordinates. This journal holds both Mr. Quinton and Colonel Skene partly responsible.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* considers that the Viceroy defends the Durbar scheme with more warmth than success. To say that a *ruse* must have been seen through is the poorest of all excuses for making it.

The *Scotsman* says that the Government of India are wholly responsible for the policy which Mr. Quinton went to Manipur to carry out. Mr. Quinton was personally responsible for the manner in which he attempted to execute it. This journal absolves the policy of the Government from all blame, but holds the conduct of Mr. Quinton open to severe censure, especially in one particular. Mr. Quinton in his telegram to the Government of India, after Lieutenant Gordon's visit to Mr. Grimwood, states his intention to arrest the Senapati, but omits to communicate the opinion of the Resident that the Senapati would offer resistance. The approval of the Government of India was thus given in ignorance of Mr. Grimwood's expression of opinion.

The *Scottish Leader* remarks that the grounds on which the Indian Government undertook its late expedition to Manipur were absolutely indefensible and that the whole business conducted with a disregard of the opinion of the Government Agent on the spot, is bad throughout.

The *Irish Times* considers the officials at Calcutta to be more the cause of the calamity than Mr. Quinton. There was manifest carelessness in not dealing more seriously with troubles which had assumed proportions large enough to give warning.

The *Times* had the following in its latest issue:—"It is understood that the front Opposition Bench are considering the advisability of bringing forward a resolution challenging the whole policy of the Indian Government with regard to Manipur. Owing to the illness of several prominent Gladstonians and to the fact that Sir W. Harcourt is detained in Derbyshire, it is improbable that any decision will be come to this week; but there is a strong disposition to take the sense of the house in the matter and to raise the question in as direct a fashion as possible, and it is expected that early next week, the Government will be asked to give the necessary facilities for a full debate."

PURI SANITATION WATER WORKS.

THE movement in connection with the repairs of the holy temple of Jagannath has drawn public attention to the notoriously insanitary condition of the town of Puri. It will be in the remembrance of our readers that our well-known fellow-citizen Babu Jadulal Mallick took occasion to refer to this matter at the meeting held some time ago in Raja Rajendra Mallick's house for the purpose of inviting public subscriptions towards the repairs. Not content with making a casual allusion to a matter of supreme importance to the Hindu world at large, Babu Jadulal with his usual zeal and energy has taken it up in right earnest. He means to give himself no rest apparently till he has convinced Government of its clear duty in this connection and has succeeded in making them to undertake it betimes. A signal service has now been done to the cause of his adoption by the opportune publication by him of the papers relating to the subject. Babu Jadulal has himself prefixed an able and forcible note to the official report on the Puri Water Works Scheme and general sanitation which was submitted to the Government of Bengal by Mr. Metcalfe, late Commissioner of the Orissa Division, some time ago; but on which no action has apparently been taken yet. Babu Jadulal's note tells us that he had

bitter personal experience in Puri during a pilgrimage of a week's duration four years ago, ever since when he has been vigorously at work towards the furtherance of the scheme. The picture he draws of the situation is something fearful and would be enough to keep away the most devoted of the devotees from the holy place, if Hindu devotion to religion was not distinctly superior to petty considerations of life and health. That the bulk of Her Gracious Majesty's loyal subjects should be open to the gravest possible dangers inspite of due and sufficient notice to the powers that be is a matter of great regret. This is also unaccountable considering specially how some of them are anxious to further unnecessary and mischievous fads in sanitation in other parts of the Empire to the loss and inconvenience of those concerned.

If the report of a single individual was all that we had to go by, it would perhaps be necessary to accept it with caution. But here we have every allegation made by Babu Jadulal more than corroborated and confirmed by the official reports which draw a gloomier picture far than is to be met with in his note. He invoked the assistance of Mr. Savage, then Magistrate and Collector of Puri, and of Commissioner Mr. Metcalfe, both of whom expressed great sympathy for the suffering pilgrims and the result of the interview was that Mr. Metcalfe represented the whole matter to Government as vigorously as possible. The Municipality may be right enough in warning that the temple which is supposed to be in a dangerous condition will be inaccessible to the public unless the necessary repairs are taken in hand at once. But Babu Jadulal is also right in his demand that it is equally incumbent on the Municipality to look to its more legitimate duty—namely, providing proper latrine and sanitary arrangements in the lodging houses which under the Lodging Houses Act bring the Municipality a large income in the shape of fees. Babu Jadulal urges that it is also the duty of the Municipality to press the question of water supply to the attention of Government and to see some solution of the question. It may be that formerly the matter was not put forward with sufficient force. But now that all the available information is before Government there would be little justification if prompt action was not taken to carry out a scheme for proper supply of pure drinking water and generally to improve the sanitation and drainage of Puri. The fund of the temple not being sufficient to meet the heavy charge of repairs, an appeal has been made to the people of India for help. All Hindus, it is expected, will voluntarily contribute their mite, and committees have been appointed in different places to help the cause forward and to collect subscriptions. It would be as much as could be expected if sufficient subscriptions came in for repairs, and it would be unreasonable to demand that when there is this pressing claim on the Hindu public they should also be required to find funds for sanitary purposes which the Municipality, with such Government aid as may be forthcoming, ought to be made to provide.

At a public meeting held at Puri in May 1886, Mr. Metcalfe who presided on the occasion, pleaded that the Municipality of Puri is poor, that reforms are needed in every direction, and that sanitary improvements are put off, year by year, for want of money. He assured the Municipality that it was not proposed to clip its income by asking it to give a portion for water-works. It had not the money to give, neither did Mr. Metcalfe think it advisable to ask it to levy a water-rate, and by increasing taxation render the proposed water-supply scheme unpopular. He said that people from every part of Hindustan visit Jagannath, and there was no independent principality that did not send some of its people there, and the disease which they contract there they carry and spread over every part of India. It is believed that the effect of impure water on the system of men and women, weakened by disease and travel, is to cause fevers and cholera, and he said that it is necessary to prevent that, by giving at least pure good water. He therefore advocated the raising of subscriptions for sanitary purposes. There would be no objection to public subs-

cription for the water works if there was not the other and more pressing demand, namely for the urgent repairs. The result of the double appeal will, we are afraid, be that neither would be successful. It would therefore not be prudent to make it.

Funds, however, must be found and Government cannot very well be asked to come down with the whole of the necessary 3 or 5 lakhs, which the Municipality is too poor to provide. Babu Jadulal Mallik foresees the difficulties and for the purpose of adequately meeting them discusses the question of ways and means in his note. He says:—

Though I fully approve all that Mr. Metcalfe has said about the urgency of the water-supply and the improvement of sanitation at Puri, I must venture to dissent from him about his suggestion to carry out the water scheme by inviting public subscription. It is not necessary for me to give my reasons for such difference of opinion. It is enough to say, that the public at large, who do not directly benefit from the work, should not be called upon to contribute. All that is wanted is to authorize the Puri Municipality to issue a debenture loan for 3 lakhs of Rupees, repayable in 20 years, to meet the expense of the water-supply scheme. In the present market, money could be easily got for the purpose at 5 per cent., provided the Municipality stipulate to provide a sinking fund of 3 per cent. per annum for the repayment of the loan. The cost of maintenance and other charges incidental to the working of the scheme has been estimated at Rupees 16,500 per annum. This with the interest of the loan comes up to Rupees 31,500 per annum. Besides this amount a further sum for the sinking fund will have to be provided i. e., Rs. 9,000. The total aggregate sum per annum would be Rs. 40,500. This sum can well be raised without a demur from the pilgrims, who would be glad to contribute their fair quota for substantial services actually rendered to them. The total number of pilgrims who visit Puri, all the year round, according to Mr. Metcalfe's estimate, is 63,000 and the fixed population about 20,000. If a sanitation and water rate be charged at 8 annas per head on the fluctuating population, i. e. the pilgrims, and a rupee per head on the permanent residents of Puri, it would realize Rs. 51,500. The surplus Rs. 11,000 and the fees from lodging houses may be profitably expended by the Municipality annually for the improvement of sanitation and drainage of Puri.

Babu Jadulal talks the language of common sense and we have no hesitation in pressing his scheme earnestly to the attention of Government. On his return from Puri he introduced this subject to the late Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Stuart Bayley, who expressed his sympathy in the matter. But His Honor, owing to more pressing calls on his attention, could not give that consideration to the subject which it merited. Being however in possession of the available resources and information, Government will have no justification now to delay the carrying of the proposals of Mr. Metcalfe, who has taken all the trouble that was necessary to mature an elaborate scheme in consultation with the eminent engineers and medical authorities, whose opinions have been given in the report submitted to Government about four years ago. Mr. Metcalfe proposed to tax the "greedy Pandas" to whom alone the large influx of pilgrims is profitable. There would be no objection to this if there was a guarantee that the Panda would only realize his just quota from every pilgrim and no more. But the chances are that taking advantage of the *Sirkar's* *Hakum*, he will make the poor pilgrim's lot harder than ever and will grow extortionate and oppressive in extreme. It would be very desirable of course to avoid direct taxation of pilgrims if possible, and till a more acceptable means for doing so is suggested we must recommend Babu Jadulal's scheme which has the advantage of practicability and simplicity.

The period of delay and hesitation has gone by and there must now be action. Mr. Metcalfe in his note on ways and means observes with great force:—

Week by week and month by month strings of pilgrims trudge along the Puri road, foot-fore and weary in every limb, who fully realize the importance of the place and the veneration with which it is regarded by Hindus throughout Hindustan. If religious statistics are to be depended upon, 6-7th of the whole population of Hindustan is interested in Puri. It is to them the holiest of holies. The temple is no other than the House of God and gate of Heaven. During every hour of day-light men and women of every caste and nationality in Hindustan may be seen daily entering or leaving the temple. Now, what is the fate of many of these travellers worn out by travel and pinched by poverty? They eat during their stay in Puri the *mahaprasad*, cooked in the temple for sale to pilgrims. The food is often bad. The oil and ghee with which it is cooked being often ran-

cid, while the rice is in a state of fermentation. For drink there is the tank-water in which daily thousands of people of both sexes wash themselves and clean their persons.

All this results in death, disease and misery, all of which are preventable. Will not Government come to our aid and prevent it? We have great confidence in Sir Charles Elliott and we hope no deaf ear will be turned to the reasonable requests made in Babu Jadulal Mallik's note.

INDIGO-CULTIVATION IN BEHAR.

WHEN in the beginning of 1877 Mr. (afterwards Sir Ashley) Eden was appointed to be Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in succession to Sir Richard Temple, it was naturally expected that the commercially unsound system under which indigo cultivation was then being carried on in Behar, would not be allowed to continue. The public could not persuade themselves to believe for a moment that the man who, in the early part of his career and while yet a subordinate officer, had cordially and zealously co-operated with Sir John Peter Grant in emancipating the ryots of Bengal proper from indigo serfdom, would forget his antecedents and tolerate the state of things which was then existing in Behar. Nor was this belief unfounded. One of the first acts of Sir Ashley Eden as ruler of Bengal was to take up the question of indigo cultivation in Behar. He caused a strong letter on the subject to be addressed to Mr. (afterwards Sir Stuart) Bayley, who was then Commissioner of Patna. In that letter was laid down in the plainest and most emphatic terms that the system under which indigo cultivation was carried on in Bengal, must be placed on a commercially sound basis. It was distinctly pointed out that the ryots would have no objection to sow indigo on their lands if they found that the business was a remunerative one; while it would be necessary to compel them to cultivate indigo if the cultivation did not pay. Sir Stuart Bayley induced the planters of Behar to form themselves into a public body, called the Behar Planters' Association, and he assured Sir Ashley Eden that the planters themselves working through the agency of this Association, would effect the required reforms in the system of indigo-cultivation in Behar, and that the interference of Government would not be necessary. Sir Ashley, who had full confidence in Sir Stuart Bayley, was satisfied with this assurance and left the matter entirely in the hands of his able and trusted Lieutenant. Sir Stuart, in replying to the valedictory address presented to him by the Behar Planters' Association in December last, on the eve of his retirement from their service, claimed that, through the efforts of the Association, the system of indigo cultivation in Behar had been placed on a sound and satisfactory footing. Let us, however, listen to the testimony on this subject given by a Behari himself.

The name of this gentleman is Mr. D. N. Reid, who declares that he is a great friend of Mr. W. B. Hudson, the Secretary of the Behar Planters' Association. Mr. Hudson has recently proceeded to England on six months' leave without pay. Mr. Reid, in a letter addressed to the *Pioneer*, severely condemns the action of the Behar Planters' Association in withholding pay from Mr. Hudson during his absence in England; and in doing so, he enumerates the valuable services which the Secretary of the Association has rendered to the Tirhoot planters. Mr. Reid writes:—"After years of hard work as Secretary of the Behar Planters' Association Mr. Hudson took short leave to England in March, and the Tirhoot planters, to mark their appreciation of his services, decided by 13 votes against 11, at a general meeting of the Association, that he should enjoy his leave without drawing any pay. Now, if there is any man in India who deserves well of the Tirhoot planters that man is Mr. W. B. Hudson, as he never spared his feelings or his person in acting as a buffer between them and the officials who had gauged the rottenness of their system of working. His influence with officials was so great

that the ryots of Mozufferpur got it into their heads that the Association was a Government institution like the Opium Department, and consequently they have gone on cultivating indigo in their holdings in farm villages at rates which do not pay them." We have here the distinct admission of a Behar planter that the ryots look upon the Behar Planters' Association as a Government institution and that it is under this belief that they cultivate indigo at unremunerative rates. Mr. Reid then goes on to say:—"Mr. Hudson is an old friend of mine, and it has been only from pure regard to his wishes that I have refrained from calling for a commission of inquiry to expose to public criticism the abuses which prevail in the system of dealing with ryots in villages in farm to a factory. We have lately heard a good deal of tall talk about the reforms introduced into the North Behar system of indigo planting, but true reform should begin in paying the ryots remunerative prices for the indigo plant grown in their fields, and I now plainly state the fact that the ryots in most factories in North Behar receive less money for their plant at the present time than they did before the Association was started. The rates in farm villages have certainly been raised a few rupees per bigah, but in this the ryot has been the loser, as the planter took care to select better land for his crop than he did before; and if the planter now gets two hundred maunds of plant for fifteen rupees, when formerly he was content with a bigah of land that gave 80 to 100 maunds for ten rupees, the ryot is the loser by the transaction and not the planter. There is great difference in the productive power of the fields in a ryot's holding as the fields near a village receive manures of sorts which do not find their way to outlying lands; and when the planter increased the rates payable for indigo plant from ten rupees to twelve or fifteen rupees per bigah, he took very good care to arrange for the best lands in the ryot's holding. The great increases in the output of indigo from Tirhoot proves this to be the case. And these facts will go to prove that the only way to make the crop remunerative to the ryot is to pay him on the maund system." It will thus be seen that the so-called reform introduced into the Behar system of indigo planting has placed the cultivator in a worse position than before. It is true that the rates payable for indigo plant per bigah have been increased; but then the ryot, so far from being a gainer by the new arrangement, has actually been a loser. Mr. Reid takes up an unassailable position when he says that indigo cultivation will never be placed on a sound commercial basis so long as the ryot is not paid at remunerative rates for every maund of plant supplied by him.

That the rates now paid to the ryot are not remunerative has been conclusively proved by Mr. Reid. He says:—"A heavy advance of from twenty to fifty rupees tempts a ryot to cultivate indigo at two annas per maund in villages not in farm to a factory, but although I am offering three and four annas per maund for plant grown without advances I can induce very few ryots to cultivate the crop on these terms. This proves that money advance is the chief inducement to a ryot to grow indigo in his holding in his villages not in farm to a factory. A bigah of the best land will give 200 maunds of plant, and this at four annas per maund represents Rs. 50 in hard cash to the man who cultivates indigo without advances—a mighty difference between this sum and the fifteen rupees paid in farm villages for the same quantity of plant. What I now want to know is, why should ryots in farm villages go on growing indigo at rates and on terms which cannot possibly pay them? The census returns of the Mozufferpur District show an average of 912 souls to the square mile, and Sir James Caird, writing to the *Times* on the situation, suggested that the system of agriculture in all congested tracts should be changed from an exhaustive to a restorative process. Sounder advice than this could not be given. To prove it allow me to show how an indigo cultivating ryot fares in a farm village in the Mozufferpur District. He has, say, a holding of five bigahs, of which from 15 cottahs to one bigah of picked land

is selected by the planter for indigo at a price which cannot possibly pay the ryots. Moreover, the entire produce to the very last plant is cast off the field to the factory vats, and the valuable refuse after the dye is extracted, is used as manure for the planter's *secrets*. By this single transaction one-fifth of the produce of his holding is lost to the ryot." The facts mentioned by Mr. Reid speak for themselves and hardly require any comment. After what he has stated in the letter under notice it is not at all surprising that the Behar ryot should be the most miserable specimen of his race to be found in India. Mr. Reid thinks that Government should insist upon all planters paying for the support of a competent Commissioner to look after the interests of the ryots. He points out that the planters have a Secretary who is thoroughly devoted to their interests and that this being the case, common fairness demands that a man should be appointed to look after the interests of the ryots. The planters are influential men who can always make themselves heard, but the poor ryots are voiceless and helpless. The facts mentioned by Mr. Reid should receive the most careful consideration of the Bengal Government.

Latest News and Notes.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy left Simla for Narkanda after the sitting of the Council on Thursday. He will return in time for the meeting on Friday.

SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT is taking interest in the Lowis Jubilee Sanitarium at Darjeeling. His Honor paid it a visit of inspection on Saturday before last. He is said to have been well pleased with what he saw. Lady Elliott who was with her husband was much gratified with the arrangements, and repeatedly expressed her admiration of the general neatness and tidiness.

A REPRESENTATIVE meeting will be held at 4-30 P. M. on Wednesday next at the British Indian Association Rooms to consider what further steps should be taken in connection with the Consent Act agitation. Delegates from all parts of the country will attend and the meeting will be of a purely deliberative character. A moderate and successful protest meeting was held at Bally on Sunday before last under the presidency of Mohamohopadhaya Pundit Dinabondhu Nayaratra.

THE Hon'ble Syed Amir Hossen C.I.E., goes on a month's leave. Moulavi Abdul Jubbur will officiate for him as the second Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta.

ON the promotion of Mr. K. G. Gupta as Excise Commissioner of Bengal, Mr. Inglis Joint-Magistrate of Alipur, will be appointed as Junior Secretary of the Revenue Board.

TENDERS for the Indian sterling loan of two million six hundred thousand were opened on Wednesday last when the total amount offered was found to reach six millions. Tenders at £94-4-6 will receive ninety-three per cent. of the allotment, above that in full.

IT is stated that the next issue of the *Calcutta Gazette* will publish the orders of the local Government in regard to the armament of the police of the city, when called out to quell any riot, and as to the responsibility for the use of any firearms.

THE ninth summer session of the Homœopathic Medical School will open this afternoon at the City College. The Hon'ble Justice Gurudas Bannerjea will preside and Father Lafont will demonstrate on "Color, what is it?"

THE gold bubble having burst, and law courts having proved powerless to punish cheats and humbugs, people have taken to abuse each other. The *Gold Gazette* and the *Indian Daily News* have been recently engaged in a delectable controversy in which the following choice epithets and classic phraseology occur:—

The Editor of the latter wrote to the Editor of the former regarding certain matters.

If you had been brought up in the Church of England you would doubtless have been enjoined to keep "from evil speaking, lying and slandering." Evidently you have not had the benefit of such instruction. Thus you say:

"By the way, while our contemporary in his editorial columns prudently declines the combat, he is evidently capable of getting behind a hedge and firing off letters to himself as editor. Vide the letters signed 'Rooked,' referring to our article on 'Independent Journalism,' which must have been written late last night, after that article appeared. An editor who writes letters to himself and appends to these letters sympathetic and encouraging notes may be left to his own devices."

Now here is a distinct charge which is a lie and a slander, fortunately admitting of proof. We have a reputation for honesty and independence which you have not yet earned. Shakespeare tells us that "suspicion always haunts the guilty mind." We say that the letter signed "Rooked" was not written by the Editor, nor in Calcutta at all. And if you send any honest and trustworthy man—if any such is associated with you—to our office for proof, it awaits him there.

Ed., *I. D. News*.

THE *Gold Gazette* did not publish this effusion of the "*Ed. I. D. News*," upon which the *News* observes:—

We wanted to see if he would have the honesty to publish it, though scarcely expecting he would do so. He declines on the ground that it is "a disgraceful letter absolutely unfit for publication in any decent paper *** the editor is evidently ashamed to publish it in his own columns." It has, however, elicited two and a half columns of abuse in the classical style of the *Gold Gazette*. We are not troubled to notice this, for its source being known it will not do us any harm. When a man stands publicly convicted of being a liar and a slanderer, he may wrap himself up as decently as he can in whatever rags of reputation may be left to him, without the least danger of being mistaken for a gentleman.

REGARDING the proposed "improvement" of third class carriages the *Statesman* observes:—

We thoroughly concur in the protest of the *Hindoo Patriot* against the New Hackney Carriage Bill which provides for an increase of 25 per cent in the fares of third class carriages. That the carriages of this class stand sorely in need of improvement is unquestionable, and our impression is that it would inflict no undue hardship on the owners to insist on a moderate degree of improvement without raising the fares. On this point the *Patriot* is apparently of the same opinion; for low as the fares are, he tells us, it is these carriages which give the largest margin of profit. The opinion may be an erroneous one; but, if it is so, and if improvement of the service is impossible without an enhancement of the fares, then we have no hesitation in saying that cheapness is of so much more importance to the class of people using the carriages, than the addition to their comfort which would result from any practicable amount of improvement, that it would be better to accept the *status quo* than to enhance the fares as proposed. As to the argument put forward by the Chairman of the Municipality, that, as many second class carriages will be transferred to the third class at the next registration, it would be very hard on the owners to subject them to such a drop in the fares as the difference between the present second and third class fares, it is difficult to characterise it with patience. Are the whole of the poorer classes of the population who use the third class carriages to be mulcted because, by its laxity, the Registration Department has encouraged the perpetuation of a style of second class carriages which ought never to have been passed in that class and which is now condemned? The argument might, or might not, be a good one for establishing, for a time, an intermediate class of carriages, plying at fares between those of the second and third class; but, as an argument for raising the third class fares all round, it is absolutely irrelevant and worthless.

We have been at some pains to ascertain facts, and are in a position to say that third class carriages make the largest profits, because they cost the least and earn a respectable fare. Though there is a time-table you can never get the third class Jehu to ply according to hour and he will charge his own fare according to distance or whim and in utter disregard of all regulations. The poor who use this class of carriages cannot afford to, or do not know how to, go to law and in ninety-nine cases out of hundred the fare-table is taken off soon after registration. So, ignorant passengers never know their rights and the drivers are free to levy any fares they

like. We deliberately say that a moderate improvement in this class of carriages without enhancement in fares will entail no real hardship and if the fare is to be increased the improvement had better be let alone. An united protest should be made against the enhancement, in the interest of the large masses of people that use this class of carriage. We are glad to learn that the Corporation does not summarily approve of the recommendation of its Committee on this head, but will go into the question as a whole *de novo* before submitting its opinion and suggestions to Government.

THE forty-ninth Hare anniversary meeting was held in the hall of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, on Monday last. The Hon'ble Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, C. I. E. presided and Babu Kally Churn Bannerjea delivered a lecture on the life and labours of David Hare. At the close of the meeting many of those present went to the College-Square and the Hare School, to visit the tomb and statue of Mr. Hare, both of which had been decorated with flowers and leaves for the occasion.

THE Baccarat case has ended in a verdict for the defendants, which means Sir William Gordon Cumming and his witnesses were disbelieved by the Chief Justice of England and the Jury. Sir E. Clarke, Solicitor-General, in his reply for the plaintiff said that the famous document which Sir William Gordon Cumming had signed was merely prepared to shield the Prince of Wales from the scandal. The Solicitor-General produced a great sensation by declaring that the removal of Sir Gordon Cumming's name from the Army List was impossible if the names of the Prince of Wales and General Williams were to be retained. General Williams claimed the protection of the Court, declaring that Sir Edward Clarke in his reply for the plaintiff had accused him of dishonourable conduct. Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, however, declined to hear General Williams. The papers commenting on the baccarat libel action mostly concur with the verdict. In all the articles the connection of the Prince of Wales with the scandal is criticised. The *Times* says that what most distresses the public is the discovery that the game was played with counters belonging to the Prince, and that the Prince's set are a gambling baccarat playing set. It would rejoice to learn that his Royal Highness had undertaken, like Sir William Gordon Cumming, never to play cards again.

The *Standard* is equally strong. It is inadvisable, it says, that the heir to the empire should gamble in mixed company, travel with his own baccarat counters, and become involved, however, innocently, in transactions leading to accusations of cheating, to mid-night conclaves, to public scandals and to actions in law Courts.

The *Daily News* says the Prince of Wales is bound to a simple, pure and cleanly life, as rigorously as if obligations were embodied in the constitution. It is in fact, the *Daily News* thinks, grotesque for a prince to be seen carrying gambling materials like a Mahomedan carrying his prayers carpet.

The *St. James Gazette* says the Prince of Wales should rule his private life with more decorum, sobriety and self-restraint, and should imitate the purity of his mother's Court.

WE are just now passing through weather that the boldest will shudder to remember when it is gone by and we can only devoutly pray that it may be gone soon. 'Scorching,' 'sultry' and other common place epithets are mild to describe the ordeal that we have been passing through, and if the early rains were acceptable their want or apparent exhaustion is now felt more than ever. This added to a Bhisti strike in Calcutta made the lot of many simply intolerable and no one can say what may still be in store for us. A representation was made to the Judges to have the work of the High Court stopped for some little time as was done in year before last. Mid-summer dreams are anything but pleasant at the rate we are faring.

THE Pauperism Committee has decided on extending their enquiries to the Jewish and Armenian poor.

WE have elsewhere noticed in detail the further progress of the trial of the Manipur Regent and the Senapati. Apart from the considerations that will present themselves to a close observer, the veriest tyro in law will be struck by the unique procedure followed in what can well be termed a judicial mockery. Because the Military Inquisition happens to be termed a court, by way of appeasing, we suppose, angry public opinion in England, the Senapati is nominally "defended." But he is "defended" by people who have suffered him to file a written statement and to be as rigidly cross-examined as any witness. The first maxim of all civilized criminal law is that no accused person is bound or required to make any statement, to answer any question, much less to be cross-examined. If he volunteers any statement, Courts of law have to warn him that he is not bound to make it and that it may be used against him. Such then is the Manipur trial, and there is an exultation that the miscreant is convicted out of the word of his own mouth though he was properly defended. But we forget. The Government Advocate has gravely told us that the *vakil Raj* is not recognised beyond the frontier. That is frank and there is no reason why the nearest tree-justice principle should not be openly espoused and followed.

THE execution of the Tongal General is held in abeyance as he may be required it is said to give further evidence in the Manipur State trials. Is he, a condemned man, bound to give evidence, and is it humane to let him linger in suspense while Government makes use of him? If he turns Queen's evidence, some consideration is certainly due to him.

THE Tongal Major is seriously ill and may yet escape the gallows, which would be a cause of deep regret as there is not a shadow of doubt that his evil influence precipitated the awful crime for which he stands condemned.

THE new suspension bridge on the Kohima road, which has been built to replace the one burned by the Manipuris before the arrival of the Chief Commissioner, will be opened for traffic to-day. It will greatly facilitate communication with Segmai, where the 44th Gurkha Rifles are at present stationed. Thus speaks the *Englishman's* own correspondent in the unmistakable tone of humanity.

WE never cared to notice the Clithero case, in which an English Court of the Justice held that a husband has no right to "abduct" his wife and detain her against her will. The case created a great sensation in England, the whilom Mrs. Jackson proved a martyr and a heroine and both the husband and wife rushed into print in vindication of each other. The Indian Press, at least that section of it that is given to reckless generalisations from individual cases of doubtful value, took up the cry and gloated over the foibles of English Society, in payment we suppose of the coins received during the Consent Bill agitation. The sage of the *Indian Daily News* who pretty nearly lost his head during the controversy makes a low class Mahomedan case of the Jackson type a peg for observing that the Native Press has been crowing that it was impossible for a Jackson case to occur in the native community. The Native Press is decidedly wrong in "crowing," for whatever may have been said of former times, reforming zeal has made outrages of every description possible now even in the best society. But because Harimatism has been christened a new crime, we are not going to start DeCruism, Verneyism or Jacksonism.

THE *Statesman* sees after all that the Land Acquisition Collector is not to blame for the default of his employers, the Corporation is. Our contemporary charged him on wrong and insufficient information, and now observes with regard to our remarks in the last issue :

In the entirely exceptional course he is following under the directions of the Corporation, the Land Acquisition officer may not be so much to blame as has been supposed;

but we still think that, in the discharge of his duty, he should have represented the extreme hardship of this particular case to the Corporation and recommended it for exceptional treatment on special grounds, without subjecting the parties concerned to the necessity of waiting for the sale-proceeds of the surplus lands, or for the "approaching big loan."

The Collector has simply no option or direction in the matter and the matter must be left to be settled between the Corporation and the complainants. We have not been at all hasty in condemning our contemporary, but felt bound to put the Collector straight in public opinion, when he was repeatedly being charged with improper conduct without having any means of defending himself.

MR. Jackson in addressing the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Trevelyan in chambers on Thursday last described the Umballa Bank to be "a most wonderful" Bank, and so it seems to be. Our readers will remember that not long ago the Bank brought an action for libel against Mr. Shirley Tremearne of the *Capital* for trying to expose what he considered the true character of the institution. It appears, however, that the Bank has not enough assets even for payment of Mr. Tremearne's cost should he be successful and has no account with any other bank. An application was therefore made on Mr. Tremearne's behalf on Thursday for security of his costs under the provisions of the Indian Companies' Act, and although Mr. Pugh on behalf of the Bank complained of smothering and strangling a new enterprise and so on, the Court directed security to be given to the satisfaction of the Registrar. Mr. Tremearne, who has not filed his written statement, will, we are told, plead justification of the libel and urge that it was for general good, inasmuch as the public has to be protected against bogus banks as well as gold (chemical?) companies.

SINCE the establishment of the Hindu Family Annuity Fund in June, 1872, it has been making steady progress, and the number of annuitants on the 31st March 1890 was over 60, in addition to admissions up to the 31st December of that year. The number of subscribers in 1889-90 was 640, and the total amount of monthly subscriptions was Rs. 2,743-15-9. The monthly amount of annuities under payment was, at the close of the year, Rs. 642, showing an excess of Rs. 85 over the amount of the preceding year. During 1889-90 Rs. 35,000 in Government promissory notes were added to the invested capital of the Fund, which after all, amounted to Rs. 3,40,000. The cash balance of 31st March 1890, was Rs. 40,349-15-11. Of this Rs. 39,941-7-8, was with the Comptroller, Indian Treasury, and Rs. 408-8-3 with the Secretary of the Fund.

ONLY fragmentary information has been received as to the disturbances in Vizagapatam district. It was announced a fortnight ago that rewards ranging from Rs. 500 downwards had been offered for information leading to the capture of the ringleaders who are mentioned by name, one being a political pensioner drawing Rs. 83 per mensem.

HER Majesty the Queen-Empress has conferred the Order of the Royal Red Cross on Mrs. Grimwood, for her heroic conduct in connection with the Manipur affair. The order was instituted about eight years ago, as a decoration for women who might distinguish themselves by special devotion in nursing the Queen's sick and wounded soldiers and sailors. The Cross is of enamelled crimson, edged with gold, having in the arms thereof the words 'Faith, Hope, and Charity.'

THE death of Babu Ambica Churn Bose, which we noticed last week, has been sincerely regretted both by the Bench and the Bar. On Monday the Chief Justice from his seat in the Bench said :-

"I feel that sitting here on the Criminal Bench this morning, it is right, I should make reference to the news which I have heard, since I came to Court, of the death of Babu Ambica Churn Bose,

and, speaking for myself particularly, and I am sure I believe for all the other members of the Bench, I should like to say what a very high respect I entertained for that gentleman, and what a great admiration I had for his qualities as an Advocate. Since I have had the honour of presiding over this Bench I have from time to time sat on the Criminal Court, and I think I may say that when Babu Ambica Churn Bose had charge of a case, one always felt that he would leave nothing unsaid, or leave us in ignorance of any point we ought to know in favour of his client; and at the same time one was perfectly safe that he would do nothing to deceive or mislead us. I think all of us, especially his own colleagues in this country, will feel with me the very great loss sustained, not only by the members of his own profession, but also I may say by the public at large. I should like to say how I myself regret his death."

Mr. Woodroffe, who was present in Court, said :-

My Lord, I was not aware until your Lordship spoke of the death of Babu Ambica Churn Bose, and if I am in order I beg to say that every word which has fallen from your Lordship will find an echo in our minds. I have always found him most fair and open as an antagonist and most open as a junior in any case in which we have appeared together. It is with regret I hear of his death.

Mr. Twidale, on behalf of the Vakils, said :-

All the pleaders felt his loss very much, and thanked his Lordship for the graceful tribute which had been paid to his worth. In fact, not only was he an able advocate, but in private life he was most genial and hospitable, and he assisted freely all who appealed to him.

THE Shambazar riot cases were again proceeded with on Monday and Tuesday last when the evidence with regard to two batches of prisoners was completed. As soon as the other batches are similarly dealt with the cases will be sent up to Sessions. Superintendent Sreenath Pal who is now much better was examined on behalf of the prosecution. So were Superintendents Merryman and Johnstone as well as Babu Sreenath Mitter the predecessor in title of Babu Suresh Chunder Dev. It is said that Mr. Lambert or Mr. Bernard will be examined also and the case will be proceeded with this week. In fact Mr. Lambert who had obtained leave of absence could not proceed to England as his evidence may be required in connection with the case.

WE acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of "the Indian Freemason's Almanac and Diary" for the year 1891, edited by Mr. P. C. Dutt. Mr. Dutt is the first Hindu Freemason and his knowledge of the craft is immense, and he is looked upon by the fraternity as an authority on all masonic subjects. This little volume before us is very creditable to the industry, ability and knowledge of Mr. Dutt, and we have no doubt it will prove a boon to the members of the craft.

THE *sub-judice* Riot Resolution of the North-West Provinces Government places it in a somewhat unfavourable light as compared to Bengal. Sir Charles Elliott does not attach any political significance to the Shambazar riots, and if His Honor wishes to say anything with regard to them officially he can afford and evidently means to wait. The criminal courts should be allowed to do their duty in the ordinary way, and it is only fair to see how far administrative exigencies will be met in that way without hurling at each turn the thunderbolts in the shape of indignant resolutions. There can be no gainsaying the fact that these resolutions are calculated to influence and disturb a judicial consideration of facts in the light of sworn testimony. Sir Charles Elliott, though he has not rushed headlong on like his colleague in the North-West, has, however, given the matter his best consideration, and communications have been departmentally exchanged in which the whole position has been carefully reviewed. The good work done by the Police has been properly acknowledged and notice has been taken of the salient facts of the case. The Allahabad Government needed official white-washing which is the real philosophy of the Resolution. There was no such contingency in Bengal and it has not been necessary for Government to speak out.

THE trial of the Benares rioters which partially came to a close has ended in the inevitable disagreement between the Judge and the Jury, though the verdict of the latter has not been delineated as 'dishonest.' The trial closed on Saturday last when in order to have done with it, the Court sat from 9-30 A.M. to 8 P.M. Keeping the jury without their dinner did not answer the usual purpose and the following was their deliberate verdict:—

1. That on the 15th of April there was an unlawful assembly and rioting, and that rioters were armed with deadly weapons.
2. The jurors unanimously find that dacoity was committed, that the dacoits were armed with deadly weapons, and that mischief by fire was committed as charged.
3. The jurors by a majority find that none of the prisoners were present at any of the occurrences at Bhadaini, and that none of them took any part in the riot or dacoity.
4. A minority finds that the prisoners Gopal Das and Raghunath Das were not concerned with the offences committed at Bhadaini, but they find the other prisoners guilty of all the charges of rioting.
5. The jury unanimously acquit all the prisoners of instigating dacoity and arson.
6. A majority finds that the shawl belongs to Rameshar Das, the accused, and a minority that it belongs to Babu Brijomohan Das. A majority therefore acquit Rameshar under Section 412 of the Indian Penal Code.

Anglo-Indian papers consider this unsatisfactory. Those, however, who carefully followed the evidence and noticed its many conflicting features cannot understand how anything but this verdict could be given by honest men pledged to do justice to their fellow-citizens in the dock. The *alibi* in regard to Lala Gobordhan Das and others was conclusively proved and the prosecution miserably failed in many respects. In spite of this the Judge, differing from the majority of the assessors, found the charges of rioting and rioting armed with deadly weapons fully proved against each one of the prisoners. As to the other charges, the decision of the Court was that, considering that the verdicts are opposed to the evidence, the case will be submitted to the High Court.

THE prisoners in the Bhadaini riot case, whom the Judge, disagreeing with the assessors, convicted under sections 147 and 148, of the Penal Code, of rioting and being armed with deadly weapons, have been thus sentenced:—

Gobardhan Dass to three years' rigorous imprisonment and rupees twenty-five thousand fine; in default, to nine months' further rigorous imprisonment. Gopal Dass, three years' rigorous imprisonment and ten thousand rupees fine; in default, to nine months' further rigorous imprisonment. Gilga Prasad, three years' rigorous imprisonment, including three months' solitary confinement, with three thousand rupees fine; in default, to nine months' further rigorous imprisonment; Lachman Das, three years' rigorous imprisonment, including three months' solitary confinement, and a fine of five thousand rupees, or, in default, to nine months' further rigorous imprisonment. Sukhnandan Das and Rameswar Das, each to three years' rigorous imprisonment, including three months' solitary confinement, with a fine of one thousand rupees, or, in default, to nine months' further rigorous imprisonment and Raghunath Das, three years' rigorous imprisonment, including three months' solitary confinement.

This record of punishment at all events will not be 'unsatisfactory'. Respectable citizens against whom the proof 'including Queen's Evidence was of the flimsiest character' have been put to all possible shame and ignominy and a good figure will come in into the State coffers. There will be an appeal, we are told.

It is said that an additional Judge will be appointed to help in the trial of the remainder of the Benares riot cases, but the name of the officer to be appointed has not yet transpired, though the name of the District Judge of Mirzapore is mentioned in this connection. It is to be hoped that some one uninfluenced by local prejudices will be appointed.

THE Calcutta Municipality is not content with having in its favour about as strong an Act as was ever framed by any Legislature for supporting the Executive, in defiance of public opinion. It must also claim and enjoy all advantages given by the Act under any color, or not given either for the matter of that. One of the most iniquitous things sanctioned by the Act is the realization of bustee rates payable by occupiers

from owners, no matter whether the latter could realize the rates from the former or not. The new system has been pursued with a vengeance and in not a few instances have the owners suffered and been harassed and insulted cruelly. When, however, the owner is strong or wily enough to baffle the ingenuity of the Act or the executive, the latter fall back on section 145 and realize the rates from the occupier by distress and peremptory sale of chattels. This is illegal and the Commissioners have no right to do it, for section 146 of the Act does not and cannot contemplate the realization of bustee rates. Throughout the Act a careful distinction has been made between Bustee and ordinary land, and the former has been scrupulously defined. Special and unheard of facilities have also been provided for the realization of Bustee rates, and those facilities proving abortive, it is absurd to claim that facilities given with regard to ordinary land should be taken advantage of in realizing Bustee rates. What the Commissioners are required by law under the circumstances to do, is to sue the defaulting owner in the Small Cause Court, get their decree, transfer it to the High Court for execution, if he has no moveable property by attachment and sale of which the decree could be satisfied, and through the High Court attach and sell his immoveable property. Instead of this they come down upon the occupier because his chattels are handy and because lengthy and expensive proceedings would thereby be obviated. Objection has been taken to the legality and propriety of this course and according to the cart-before-the-horse principle, which the Corporation so thoroughly understands, there is a talk now of the opinion of the Advocate-General being taken in the matter. Why was not the opinion taken before launching into what many will, and do, think an illegal procedure and why should any opinion be taken or be necessary at all? The Commissioners have only to say that they will not do an unjust and improper thing and that ought to set matters at rest. But the Corporation is more flush of cash than of common sense and common justice and it must at times relieve itself of its superfluities through the channel of law.

THE Municipal Corporation of Calcutta is a naturally heroic institution and the martial element preponderating in it is to be literally increased. With the appointment of Lieutenant Colonel Lee as the Commandant of the Calcutta Volunteer Battalion, a Municipal Corps has been formed with Mr. Kimber, the Engineer, as its Captain. The Corps would be more serviceable if it be armed with brooms than with rifles, and it would make little difference if the Commissioners with the gift of the gab were to be allowed to join it, as a contemporary suggests. There is a general movement on foot to develop volunteering which probably accounts for the enrolment of the heroes of the scraping brush. The Shambazar riots have reminded many of their brethren of "1857," and life and limb are considered by them unsafe, not to speak of property. The suggestion, therefore, has gone out that volunteers should not be disarmed all at a time, but by companies so that help may be ready at hand at any contingency. We cannot second the proposition, as some volunteers at any rate have not proved themselves very capable or trustworthy custodians of their weapons, and murders and attempts at murder have been committed by means of arms that should never have been used except in the cause of the country and the Queen. To call out, moreover, a mixed group like volunteers at a time of popular excitement would be the height of impolitic unwisdom. The regulars could be summoned and got ready almost in no time and with more effect, and a properly disciplined armed constabulary would be preferable by far. The authorities should not in the excitement of the moment lose sight of these grave matters in issue.

MESSRS COTTON and Osmond, now in England, will represent the Calcutta Municipality at the International Congress of Hygiene, in addition to any native Commissioners who may go.

Some of the Commissioners who on other occasions stand up for fanciful economy were for sending the Health Officer as their representative and would not grudge him leave and his expenses. The Chairman and the other Commissioners thought otherwise and the thing could not be done. The Health Officer is so full of fads that he needs no Hygiene Congress to stimulate him, one should have thought.

IT is re-assuring to learn that the Fire Brigade Committee has practically settled that there should be no fresh and independent rates for its maintenance. The question to be determined now is what contribution Government and the Municipality should each make.

THERE is no proper system of short hand reporting in Bengali. This is felt to be a great want in connection with meetings, the proceedings of which are conducted in vernacular. We are glad to learn that Babu Dwijendra Nath Singha is bringing out a book on the art of phonography as applied to the Bengali language. He has based his system on that of Pitman, with the necessary modifications. Those interested in the subject may obtain fuller details from the author at 30 Baranassey Ghose's Street.

LADY DUFFERIN's portrait, painted to the order of the Dufferin Memorial Committee, has arrived in Calcutta, and has been offered to the Municipality as a free gift to the city. It will be hung up in a prominent place in the Town Hall and the gift has been cordially accepted on these terms. It will not be, however, hung up until the cold season, when Lady Lansdowne will be requested to unveil it. The pedestal for the statue of Lord Dufferin has been placed in position at the head of the Red Road. It is formed of blocks of Scottish-grey granite, highly polished. The statue itself will not be put up until Lord Lansdowne returns to the city, when His Excellency will be asked to unveil it.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN GENERAL DEBILITY AND EMACIATION.—In cases of Debility and Emaciation the powerful curative influence of Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil is graphically described by Sir Henry Marsh, Bart, M.D., Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, who, after extensive use, strongly recommended this preparation, and observed I have frequently prescribed Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil. I consider it to be a very pure Oil, not likely to create disgust, and a therapeutic agent of great value." This eminent Physician remarks:—With strumous and emaciated subject, and where the general health is impaired this remedy tell with peculiar efficacy. The reviving and remaining effects of a regular daily course of this animal Oil are highly satisfactory. Its favorable action on the system is renovating; it checks progressive emaciation, restores the yielding health, rebuilds, as it were, the tottering frame, and brings about a most remarkable and salutary change in all the vital functions." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts with his stamp and signature of this sole consignees on the capsule and label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

FROM THE "GAZETTE DES HOPITAUX," Paris. We have already tried Chassaing's Bidigestive Syrup, Pills and Wine on a great number of patients, and are pleased to be able to state that these medicaments proved most efficacious. After a few days' consumption of the drug, a regular digestion and perfect assimilation was obtained. These new medicines will, therefore, most certainly render great services in therapeutics; and it is on these grounds that we recommend them to our professional brethren." Dr. Salmon.

The therapeutic effects of Rabuteau's Iron are at once rapid and strong. In women whose menses have ceased for several months, amenorrhœa disappears; in others affected by a confirmed chloro-anemic, conditions of long standing and in such as were unable to take the ordinary ferruginous preparations, Rabuteau's Iron restored, in a short time the digestive functions to their normal condition. It could not be otherwise because Genuine Rabuteau's Iron does not require the intervention of the gastric juice, in order to be assimilated.

Correspondence

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

London, May 25, 1891.

PUNJAB PROGRESS.

Under the auspices of the East India Association, a meeting of officers and gentlemen interested in the affairs of the British Empire in the East, was held on April 29, at the Westminster Town Hall, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Reay, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., for the purpose of considering the administrative progress of the Punjab under British rule. The principal address was delivered by Mr. Charles L. Tupper, Chief Secretary to the Punjab Government, who furnished an elaborate sketch of the Punjab polity since the great despatch of Lord Dalhousie in 1849 constituting the Punjab Board of Administration. He pointed out that much of the interest of the story of remarkable progress is due to the sense that the Punjab, the Frontier Province of the Empire, the guardroom of India, our base of defence against attack from without, is also a land of great traditions. It is the land of the Lawrences, of Robert Montgomery, of Herbert Edwardes, of Nicholson, of Reynall Taylor, and many other men not so well known, but who carried with the discharge of their duties the spirit that animated their chiefs. It is a land not only of great British, but of great Native traditions; the land of great Punjabi or Frontier Mahomedans, whose family or tribal histories are full of adventures of Hill Rajahs, the length of whose lineage equals or exceeds that of the oldest of our own nobility; of the Sikhs, who withstood the Delhi Empire on the East and the Durani Empire on the West, and who at last frankly joined with their British conquerors and aided them to recover Northern India. These claims of the Punjab on British and Native sympathies lend to Punjab Administrative topics an interest greater than they intrinsically deserve; and the history of administrative progress is a trifle compared with the complex feelings of tradition, of confidence, of firm resolve to avert any evil day by wise and timely preparation, that make it a matter of rejoicing that the Punjab is an integral part of the British Empire, and that we stand in strength amongst a friendly people in that province of British India where we have most reason to be on our guard.

Mr. Brandreth said having left the Punjab ten years ago he had watched its immense progress under British rule and he believed the chief reason was the individualism which under the regime of Sir John Lawrence was left to the Punjab officer. The recognition of "Custom" as the essence of the Common law, was what had made England so free and it had done the same in the Punjab. The Lieutenant-Governor with his minute control of every Department still left a great deal to the intelligence of the officers and this it was which enabled the Punjab to progress. One of the most striking points in the paper was that when the local courts were allowed to deal more thoroughly with local knowledge and local ideas the number of murders in the Peshawar District in one year fell from 96 to 43. That was a tremendous fall and it was difficult to properly value the immense power of that fall. The lesson of the paper was that unless they could localize administration and rely more upon County Councils and local works, instead of having one uniform Government for all England or the Punjab, they would never have the progress which they had under Lawrence.

General MacLagan said that among their predecessors in the Government of India were many very great and able men who made good laws and did very good things, but there was wanting that particular element which was the source of strength of the British rule, namely, continuity of Government. This defect was very well shown by the history of the Western Jumna Canal. For five centuries after its construct it was alternately repaired and neglected and exactly 500 years after the water was first admitted to it by original constructions the British Government in the Punjab was engaged making those final alterations which had brought the Canal to its present state of wonderful efficiency. But canal would never again fall into a state of disrepair and disuse until it was superseded by something greater and better. It had fallen into the hands of those who had continuity of Government which locally irrespective of change of rulers would go on and increase. One other cause of progress was that the Government of India endeavoured so far as it could to carry the good-will of the people who were directly interested in any measure. He did not pretend the people chiefly interested in any great work in all cases entirely admired the way in which the British Government had carried out their measures, but all the intelligent and thinking people of India knew and felt that what the British Government did was done

with a distinct honest and earnest purpose for the welfare of the country and of the people.

Mr. Boulois referring to the question of appeals said he did not consider the figures quoted by the author showed any increase in the number of appeals that might be regarded as discouraging. In 1871 there were 1400 appeals, with three judges to dispose of them, and in 1889 there were 1877. It seemed extraordinary that the existence of only 500 or 600 additional appeals should require quite three times the number of Judges in the highest Appellate Court.

Sir George Campbell M. P. said his view of the best Indian Administration was a patriarchal despotism ruling over small indigenous self-governing republics and that was what they had when he was connected with the administration of the Punjab. Although there was much that was very gratifying in the paper his chief misgiving was lest the Punjab should have been too much assimilated to other provinces, too much division of appointments, too much division of labour, too much modernising of system and too much of the influence of lawyers. The Punjab people were energetic but they had that disposition to driving their enemies in the Courts when they could not do it in the field which was characteristic alike of Scotchmen and of Punjabis and he was just afraid that they might have put too much fuel on that fire. One all-important question connected with the Punjab was the indebtedness of the peasantry. The great evil of peasant proprietary in this modern European sense was that people who had not been accustomed to it were given too much credit and they were apt to get into debt. He believed this was not so bad in the Punjab as in many other parts of India. The sturdy Punjabis knew their own interests and things were not so bad as in other parts. He was rather disappointed by what Mr. Tupper said about popular education in the Punjab. His experience of the indigenous Punjabis was that as compared with other Indian populations they were by no means deficient. A very fair proportion of the population could read and write enough to keep their own accounts and many of the women could read and write.

Mian Mahammed Shafi after acknowledging the great blessings that India had received from British rule said the Panjabis although in other matters thoroughly conservative had been more than liberal in the point of education. Even before English administration in all their province there was limited female education more or less elementary. He was confident that in the course of a few years although the Punjab had been comparatively a short time under British administration it would compete with other Provinces both in Education and in other departments.

Mr. Martin Wood said the paper and the speeches seemed to read rather too smoothly. The question was as to the condition of the people, were they better or worse than at the time that the British Government acquired the sovereignty of the Province. No doubt the impression left upon the minds of all who heard the paper was that everything was happy and prosperous. The estimate of the average income of the inhabitants of India was admitted to be 27 Rs. a year. The income in the Punjab was 25½ Rs. and in the Bombay Presidency 30 Rs. It must be remembered that administration was not everything. They might have multiplied the people but they had not also increased the joy.

Lord Reay in summing up the discussion said he was in some hope that the returns of the last Indian Census would enhance the interest which was taken in that great Empire. It was a very remarkable fact that a great deal of interest was taken in Indian affairs by Frenchmen. This was shewn by an article which lately appeared in the *Revue de deux mondes*. That remarkable statesman M. Bouthelney St. Hilaire lately said to him, "Your Government of your Indian Empire is the greatest marvel the world has ever seen" (applause). That opinion was the result of life-long study for Mr. St. Hilaire had devoted his life to the study of Indian subjects. His enthusiasm rose to the greatest height when he heard what was then only the preliminary result of the Census. Those results came to hand by the last mail and were so intensely interesting that he would refer to them. They had to begin with this fact that 940,000 enumerators were employed. In Bengal alone the staff exceeded 309,000. So that each enumeration had an average of only 200 entries to collect. The full returns it was known would amount to a population of just under 286 millions of which 220½ millions lived in British territory and 65½ under feudatory rule. The gross increase since the last Census was 29 millions, or 9½ per cent. of the population. That was an appalling fact, because it was difficult to realize what an increase of population of 29 millions would entail in the way of administrative responsibility in every respect. He thought the author of the paper while showing a very just pride in the more recent development of the administration was not without a lingering regret

for the good old times when offices did pretty much what they liked and were not controlled by Central Departments at head quarters. He was glad to see that what had been done with regard to finance was to leave the provincial Government with a perfectly free hand letting the Central Government laying down their main principles to be observed all through India. The Central Government at Simla had certain responsibilities and they could not relinquish those responsibilities. On the other hand there were responsibilities just as great and important on the Provincial Government. Going further he would leave to the district officers a great share of responsibility and going beyond that he would leave again great responsibility to those native officials who were such important auxiliaries to great work being carried out in India and who were so well acquainted with the wishes and customs of the people. He entirely agreed in objecting to special departments. The basis of administration in India must be the district officer and in no instance could an officer of a special department be allowed to act independently of the district officer. That was a rule which in the Bombay Presidency during his time had always been carefully observed. They must create special offices but they should as little as possible create special departments running on a line alongside of the district officer, receiving their instructions from head quarters and constituting to a certain extent a dislocation of the administration. The important thing was that in all these cases the special officers should act harmoniously with the local officers, and he believed that was the solution that special sanitary officers, special excise officers and special police officers were all as it were the personal staff of the district officer. In cases where the district officer would not be competent to deal with the technique of their trade in that case necessarily they would receive their instruction from the other heads of their own departments, but wherever they came in contact with the population they should act in concert with the District officer. That secured no friction and also that the administration of these special departments should be more efficient than if separated from the district administration with regard to sanitation no doubt the Punjab had the same difficulty that was found in Bombay. In Bombay they had started on the principle of making the self-governing institutions, municipalities of districts or village boards primarily responsible. If they did not do the work on their own account the Government would naturally come in and do it for them but they would prefer that it should be done by these Boards. In any case in the matter of sanitation they must be prepared to advance very cautiously, in regard to education it had been said that the missionary schools in the Punjab were not accepted by the population in some cases on account of the fear which existed that the conscience clause would not operate in those Institutions. He (Lord Reay) was proud to say that during all the time that he had to deal with education and with schools, either primary, secondary or intermediate, or colleges which were under the influence or control of missionary bodies not a single complaint reached him from any quarter of native society that there was the slightest danger for the children of native parents who frequented those Schools. Naturally the Government would protect the native children against any a tempt to interfere with their own ideas on the subject, and what was more when some difficulty arose in the college of the Free Churches at Madras, in Bombay the leader of the native community at once informed him that they had not the slightest fear that any difficulties would arise in the Bombay Presidency. He hoped this extremely able paper would attract in a wider sphere the attention which it so richly deserved.

A vote of thanks having been accorded to the author and to Lord Reay for presiding, the proceeding closed.

MR. QUINTON'S PROCEEDINGS AT MANIPUR.

In a recent letter I remarked that the accounts we were receiving from India, and especially the startling story of Mrs. Grimwood showed that that had taken place was, to use English proverbial expressions, a turning of the tables upon Mr. Quinton or of hoisting the engineer with his own pelard. This has been the aspect of the case which has called forth most comment during the week, even to the putting aside of the question of annexation or non-annexation which had up to then been discussed most. We are undoubtedly surprised and shocked that such a plan which might be a natural one for some of your wild frontier tribes should have been deliberately conceived by the Government and entrusted to the hands of an English gentleman for execution. At present we have only Mrs. Grimwood's statement and we feel how carefully that lady's account must be taken considering the dreadful nature of the circumstances she was called upon to pass through when her impressions were formed. Moreover, the character of Mr. Quinton, we

are assured by those who knew him, renders it most improbable that he should have had any hand in what Lord Ripon calls "such an unworthy proceeding." Lord Cross again says "my information does not lend me to believe that the Government of India ever contemplated the summoning of the Senapati to a durbar for the purpose of arresting him. If that had been done I should have been much surprised." But the *Times's* correspondent telegraphs from Calcutta another point on which the Government maintains the utmost reticence is the nature of the instructions given to Mr. Quinton. This is the more to be regretted as it now seems clear he intended to effect the arrest of the Senapati at the durbar. If that idea were not his own, then fairness demands that the memory of the unfortunate officer should be cleared of the imputation, and that the blame of sanctioning such a very extraordinary proceeding should be laid on the right shoulder. Well the friends of Mr. Quinton say those shoulders are not his; and as I have said Lord Cross denies that by any possibility could he conceive of the Indian Government issuing such orders. What are we to think then? Sir W. W. Hunter in a long letter to the *Times* defending Mr. Quinton thinks we must disbelieve everything to his discredit and ascribe the charges either to an incorrect report of what Mrs. Grimwood really said or to the disordered state of that lady's memory as to the circumstances just before the heartrending bereavement which she had suffered. It certainly would not be surprising if Mrs. Grimwood's memory of exciting events themselves in which she took part were unreliable on account of the agitation of her mind at the time but she is speaking of a time when Mr. Quinton, her husband and herself were calmly discussing circumstances and speaking of what had to be done. Unless Mrs. Grimwood's mind has been completely upset she is quite likely to remember matters at that stage. At any rate it is hardly fair as has been pointed out by the friends of Mrs. Grimwood that Sir William should so dogmatically put the blame on that lady when he desires the public to suspend any judgment adverse to Mr. Quinton until the promised despatches from the Government of India reach this country. In the absence of these despatches it is very strong to say that he is confident they will throw a very different light on the transactions from that derived from the alleged statements of the afflicted lady who escaped the massacre, and whose husband perished in it. "As to Lord Cross' incredulity in the possibility of such a step ever having been stated as that spoken of by Mrs. Grimwood we are reminded by the correspondent above mentioned that an attempt of a similar kind was made in Burmah some months ago. What is there then intrinsically incredible in believing that same treacherous policy may not have been contemplated in a scene not exceedingly remote from that where it had been practised before? There is a growing feeling in England that we are kept in the dark a good deal regarding exploits which will not bear the examination of a people who would wish its officers whether civilian or military to act as sons of a civilized and not of a barbarian power. Secret and shady transactions of the kind required to be thoroughly sought at and brought to the light. If they are not such grotesque reports of the deliberate and planned massacre of natives as have been spread by the French Press of late may assume greater seriousness in our minds than they have hitherto done, for we are naturally inclined to treat them with contempt. But when our own countryman or country woman suggests a possibility of there being some truth in them we get uneasy, and we shall insist upon the full truth of the Manipur proceedings being disclosed.

I have already called your attention to the opinion expressed here that it is difficult to see how annexation of Manipur can now be avoided. Sir J. Johnstone who from his knowledge of the country is entitled to very considerable attention has combated this opinion and it is his contention that recent events have not made the situation impracticable. The real question to decide is, he says, assuming we wish to act up to our engagements with native states whether there is any alternative to annexation. He asserts that there is and it is the replacement of the rightful Maharajah, Sura Chandra Singh or his infant son, upon the throne. He goes on "In either case a strong Political Agent must be appointed and the nominal ruler kept on a state of tutelage for a time. If matters are well managed things will right themselves, and Manipur will emerge from her temporary obscurity happier than ever because better governed, and we shall have the satisfaction of having preserved an interesting little state that has been and can be of much use to us. We are able to do it, and on us rests the responsibility if we shrink from the task. Manipur, can be quite as useful to us as a native State as if it were a British District, and the only real argument that we ought to annex it because we should like to have it will be at once set aside as utterly unworthy. The task of re-organization will be

no easy one, but it can be accomplished. Sura Chandra Singh's deposition would not have been effected had he been supported as he should have been, and under able guidance, and given a fair chance he may yet prove a good ruler; but either he or his son, if thought more desirable, would be thankfully accepted by the people. The whole business has been a bad one and the less said the better, but let it not be said throughout India that we annexed the country as the only way out of our own blunders."

In a conversation I have had with a gentleman who has recently returned from Afghanistan after a long residence there he said that nobody will watch more earnestly the course of events in Manipur than the Ameer of Afghanistan. Jealous as he is of all attempts made by the English or Russian to establish official relations with his Court the feeling will be strengthened by observing any tendency on the part of the English to utilize affairs in Manipur for the extension of their authority. Whatever the difficulties which now exist in the way of official communication between India and Afghanistan would be indefinitely increased by the annexation of Manipur. On the other hand the Ameer's suspicion of everything which would leave the least opening for British influence in Afghanistan is so strong at present that perhaps nothing could persuade him to alter his attitude in the least. He is quite willing to spend the twelve lacs of rupees allowed him by the Indian Government but is not the more inclined on that account to strengthen the hands of the English. At the same time he is equally rigorous in his attitude towards Russia and has no more inclination to coquette with the one than the other. His penchant is for complete independency and my informant gave the surprising accounts of the untiring and sleepless vigilance with which he watches personally over every department of his state and combines all office in his own person.

I may say in reference to the subsidy of twelve lacs of rupees that my friend expressed the opinion that a larger allowance ought to be made but he also thought that that payment should come out of the English and not of the Indian Government as it is paid entirely on account of and carry out British ideas.

SOME SOCIO-POLITICAL MATTERS.

The week has been remarkable for the great meetings held in all parts of Great Britain and Ireland by the working classes to advocate measures for the improvement of their condition as workers and citizens. The custom of holding such meetings at this time of the year, which to Europeans regard as the joyful and hopeful season, when the weather is genial and suggestive of the still brighter days of Summer, has grown up in a manner almost spontaneously within these last few years. May day, the first of May, is traditionally associated with everything that is bright and pleasant and is symbolic not only of better states and conditions of man's mind and fortunes here but of a future which extends further than this present earthly scene. So that with a poetical and imaginative sense which must be regarded as admirable the workers have fixed upon May day as that most fitting for their assembling and giving utterance to the thoughts and sentiments which have of late been animating them more strongly than at any previous period and which are destined to shape more powerfully than any other class of ideas the future of European and English Society. Unfortunately in France, Belgium, Spain, Germany many of these meetings have ended in riot and bloodshed. In England the meetings have been pleasant pic-nics in the parks and under the trees, with bands of music and banners enlivening the scene but not at all intended to excite hostile or military feelings in the processionists. Instead of any effort being made by the authorities to put down the demonstrators the Police cleared the streets of obstructions and made all things smooth and easy for them. On the route of the procession the windows and doors were crowded with people of all ranks observing them, interested in their doings, and if not in all cases actively sympathising with their objects, at any rate far from disposed to take or advise any repressive measures against them. Whether this happier state of things is due to the greater restraint and common sense of our workmen or to the more liberal ideas of liberty which animate our Government, we have not to deplore such painful incidents as have accompanied the similar demonstrations on the Continent.

Probably both elements may contribute to this very gratifying result. Certainly for many years how our workmen have been trained and disciplined in the free trade unions which have done so much to raise their status, and if now they can pursue without interruption the higher aims which are now animating them in a calm and rational spirit it is because after less peaceful contests they have been able to establish and carry on quietly those trade unions,

If their action is not always, whatever their friends consider, wise still they ever-like men who can learn wisdom from experience; and we expect them to deal sensibly and temperately with the newer problems which are agitating their ranks. The great topic of the May meetings as of all workmen's associations now is the limitation of the hours of labour to the eight hours day. How far this can be carried out and by what means they are by no means agreed. Some are for legislation. Others for the achievement of the object by means of the trade unions. There are the Socialist School and the individualist of which latter the late Mr. Bradlaugh was a most distinguished champion. I have before me now his very last book just published called "Labour and Law" in which he depends his own position and attacks that of the opposite party with his usual clearness, vigour and ability. But on the whole it seems that the tendency on the part of the majority of workmen is to support the demand for state aid. That certainly seems to have been so with the demonstrators of May day. Already it may be taken for granted that legislation will be passed for restricting the hours of railway servants and miners: and municipalities and Government departments have begun already to adopt the new theory of working hours. Probably at present the numbers who now sit in Parliament would vote against any attempt except perhaps in the case of railways and mines to limit the hours in any trade but it is not at all unlikely that a considerable difference will be seen in the constitution of the next House of Commons and some scheme or other probably a permissive one which would enable any particular trade to adopt under legislative sanction a limitation of hours, will there and then be worked out. Moreover, it is to be noticed that the ideas of the workmen extend beyond their own country and their object is to join as far as possible in an International union with workmen of other countries. This indeed is an essential part of a successful scheme. The recent meetings of workmen upon the continent at which delegates from England were present have been amongst the most interesting events of the year.

My space will not allow me to go into this matter in more detail but I may give you a certain resolution passed at a large meeting of over 8,000 men which I think illustrates the general objects of the working classes at large. At this meeting the Chief Magistrate of the Town presided and the resolution has adopted unanimously the favour of limiting the hours of labour to 48 per week in all such occupations as should demand its application and making it compulsory of adoption by the Government and municipal bodies, in favour of manhood suffrage, free education, triennial Parliaments, members of Parliament being paid by the State &c.

Remembering that the workmen are in a large majority as voters it is evident what importance such a programme must have in future elections.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Law Lecturer of King's College-London (J. H. Scaife, LL.B.), says (Jan., 1891): "Invaluable for examination purposes and as a sound training of the Memory." A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle, M.A.) was (Jan., 1890): "Much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great benefit for your lessons, though at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Physician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "Excellent travelling companion."—Capt J. B. Haye, R. N. "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-ud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. B. "Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887. "The audience (representative of the learned Professions) was most enthusiastic." *Glasgow Herald*, 5th March, 1891. Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th Feb., 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil, Rs. 76; Ten pupils Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta; or to A. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

In Algeria, where cases of anemia, of cachexia and chlorosis, are frequent and obstinate, Colonial physicians are accustomed to administer iron in all its forms; they have stated that Genuine Dr. Rabuteau's Iron Syrup and Dragees cure persons seriously affected with anemia more rapidly than any other preparation. Dr. Louis Gavaudan (of Oued-Zenati, Algeria), says:—"Dr. Rabuteau's Iron Syrup and Dragees are remarkably quick in their action, and never produce constipation."

One of the most painful problems of labour is that arising from the immigration to our country of destitute foreigners who do so much to aggravate the poverty and helplessness of many of the lower classes of our labourers in large towns. Just now it is particularly pressing on account of the persecutions of the Jews in Russia crowds of whom will pour in upon us bringing a host of evils in their train. We are in a dilemma. We should wish to receive kindly all who seek our shores but justice to our own poor seems to demand that some measures should be taken to prevent their being completely swamped.

This week an influential meeting under the Presidency of Lord Demraven has been held for the purpose of considering the matter. We do not want to have any outbursts of feeling on the part of our workmen against these squalid foreigners, and we are certainly not actuated by any race or religious hostility against them; but unless something is done there is great danger of this. We talk of schemes of colonization and emigration for our poorer classes but they are useless as long as thousands poorer than they are constantly pouring in to supply their place. At present we are completely helpless and no one has hit upon anything practical. The most practical in our sense is that instead of spending as a certain society amongst us does, £35,000 a year in the gratification of our national passion for converting every body to Christianity, upon the conversion of the Jews which is almost without results, we should spend it in emigrating them either into the Holy Land or the more secular regions of South America.

We have gleam of hope in the news that Baron Hirsch is going to spend £3,000,000 upon this desirable object and we may expect the Rothschilds and other wealthy Jews to support him knowing what the state of feeling here is. And by the way one of the most interesting topics has been the rumoured withdrawal of their assistance in raising the new Russian loan in consequence of the dreadful scenes which have been enacted of late in that country.

The more distinctly political matter that has been occupying attention has been the question of the likelihood or non-likelihood of a dissolution. The Budget was, as I have said, and is looked upon as a dissolution Budget and there is a belief that we shall probably have a general election in the autumn. The latest events bearing on this point are the various bye-elections which have been going on. Of the seven there has been encouragement for the Government in the fact that the first three have effected no change in the representation; unionists having been again returned where a unionist already sat. But this week a unionist has been defeated and a Home Ruler returned with an increased majority over that of 1885 the great Liberal victory year. In the remaining four there is more probability of success than in the preceding ones which were always considered doubtful. Apart from any ill-omened misfortune in these still pending election the prospects of the Government in the opinion of many of its supporters are good. There is the free education proposal which is a distinct bid against the Liberals, these is the Land Purchase Bill for which a great amount of credit is claimed, and above all those is the disruption of the Irish party which, however, is perhaps not in so consoling a position for the Government as it was some time ago; the patriot or Justinian party having to a great extent recovered its lost ground. But with all this however there is a mixture of uncertainty. The Government is not quite sure that it reads the signs of the times right nor are its supporters, who shrunk from the thought with dismay of cutting short their term of power by over-weening confidence and forfeiting their one safe bird in the hand for the uncertain chance of catching the two in the bush. The *Times* especially is doubtful of the result and finds ever so many patriotic reasons for deferring a dissolution which it would gladly welcome if it believed that the opposition with good reason lost heart as if affects to take for granted that it has the high moral tone it assumes is very impressive. The Government must not, it exclaims, be open to any reasonable suspicion of choosing the moment of dissolution with a view to snatching a party advantage. It must be patriotic and for the best of all reasons that patriotism will pay. The impressiveness of the spectacle of the Government remaining at its post, persevering with its legislation, especially the Irish Land Bill which must not be allowed to be passed or to be manipulated by the enemy before it is got into full working order, rather than enacting at what seems to the vulgar a favourable chance must tell immensely in its favour; especially if the opposition will only furnish the one element which is required to give validity to the arguments for dissolution viz a more than normal amount of friction to the Government programme. Unfortunately it seems that what might be supposed to be a matter for congratulation, the want of spirit of the opposition in view of the triumphs of the Government, is the very thing which throws doubt upon the

Government's success if a dissolution were decided upon at present. This seems, however, to the *Times* conclusive against attempting to snatch a party advantage just now; and its conclusion is that the Government should not think of dissolving for at least fifteen or eighteen months longer in the absence of special and potent reasons which do not yet exist. Besides it hates the notion of appearing to favour the ideas of those who advocate the shorter term of Parliament, a triennial one for example, and points out that those who do not allow a Parliament to live seven years when they may are not in a good position for resisting proposals to alter the term in law as well as in fact.

Another organization which the proposal to confer free education is likely to bring into more than wonted activity is what is known as the Liberation Society whose object is to procure the disestablishment of the Episcopal Church, in other words to have this one Church placed on a legal equality with other Churches and its endowments which are largely supplied out of charges upon the land, known as tithes, turned to some other national account—it might be, for example, free education most of the voluntary schools, that is the non-state schools, are in the hands of the established Church clergy. Free education if granted without submitting these schools to the control of the State is really endowment of them out of State funds and as religious education is naturally an important object in these voluntary schools those who object to the National State religion, equally of course object to its support by education in the schools. The Liberation Society is a powerful body representative of the brick of non-conformist opinion. The non-conformists taken together in a strictly religious census are probably in a majority of the people. The irreligious would make a very good third. The mood in which most non-conformists and the majority of those who are neither that nor Churchmen and who may be spoken of broadly as representing the Liberal party, will approach this question may be seen from a sentence or two in a speech by Sir George Trevelyan M.P., at a meeting of the Liberation Society held this week. He said "It is necessary to make a stout and determined fight to secure that the elementary schools in the villages as well as in the great cities shall be placed under a real and not a nominal popular control. In the last resort, if it were not possible to carry that point, it was necessary to place on record a resolution voted for by the whole strength of the Liberal Party, which would irrevocably bind the next Liberal Government whenever it might come into power to take measures that in town and country alike the public schools should be under the charge of the chosen representatives of the people."

The Government has not yet made known the provisions of its Bill. The matter is a most difficult one and involves very large issues; the principle of the State establishment of religion is one of the largest of these and the disestablishment of the English Church would be a social and political revolution. The Irish Church has been disestablished. The Scotch Church and the West branch of the English Church are within measurable distance of disestablishment; that of the English Church is at least on the horizon.

THE CASE OF THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

You may remember that I have spoken before of the charges against two members of Parliament for criminally immoral acts and of the questions which arose upon their flight from the country. Mr. De Cotain has not yet returned. Captain Verney did but so damning was the evidence given in the Preliminary proceedings that when he was put upon his trial he pleaded guilty and he has been sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. This sentence does not *ipso facto* deprive him of his seat in Parliament but steps will be immediately taken for his expulsion. The chancellor of the Exchequer has already given notice of his intention to bring the matter before the House next week. These cases have called attention to the defect in the procedure by which members of Parliament are enabled to vacate their seats. They cannot resign except by the acceptance of an office under the Crown, and there are certain offices without duties which have come to be used as a kind of machinery for resignation purposes when a member no longer intends to sit in Parliament—the children hundreds is an office of this kind: is in fact the typical one. In a case like this of Captain Verney's there is an impropriety in conferring even such a nominal office upon the offender and consequently the only means the House has of vacating his seat is by his expulsion. Where a member wishes to retire under ordinary circumstances the proceeding is cumbrous. For these reasons Sir Henry James has brought in a Bill empowering members to vacate their seats by simple resignation. This seems a very proper provision. In the cases where wrong-doing should be marked by the sense of the House the resignation might be re-

fused and expulsion resorted to. In others it seems absurd to keep up a system which is so antiquated.

THE FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY.

An interesting case of the vacation of a seat in Parliament by the acceptance of an office of profit under the Crown is that of Mr. W. H. Smith the First Lord of the Treasury and the Leader of the Government in the House of Commons. Mr. Smith has been appointed to an office called the Lord Warden-ship of the Cinque Ports and the Constableness of Dover Castle. This involves his resignation and the necessity of re-election to a seat in Parliament; for at this moment the man next to the Prime Minister is without a seat. There was a discussion whether he had not rendered himself liable to heavy penalties for taking part in a division after his appointment; but it seems that though he had been appointed he had not their formally accepted.

There are some very curious things in the British constitution and quite a cluster of them sprung up in connection with this new office of Mr. Smith. The office itself is a sinecure. It belongs to a very ancient period of our history. The Cinque Ports are five towns which in days long gone by used to furnish the ships upon which he depended for our defence. With the exception of Dover they are now merely pleasant seaside resorts; but we still keep up the old forms and offices though they have become entirely meaningless. The Lord Warden, however, has certain "fees, rewards, commodities, emoluments, profits and advantages" of various kinds "which are not burdensome to any one to render; and all his duties are of a social kind which no doubt cost him more than he receives. Eminent men always hold the office and it is sought after as an social honour. Still having once been an important military or naval post under the Crown the old forms are kept up and so Mr. Smith must be re-elected before he can again sit in the House just as much as if he had been appointed say First Lord of the admiralty. A certain number of offices have been exempted from this rule which goes back to the time when the House of Commons was jealous of the Crown's influence in Parliament and objected to having the king's minister amongst them to threaten them with the king's displeasure or cajole or bribe them with the promised favour. Perhaps we should not know much difference how if the rule was wholly done away with.

There is a rumour that Mr. Smith's re-election will be opposed but probably the opposition is not serious.

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Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette.—June 11, 1891.

GENERAL.—Mr E M Lewis, Superintendent, Government Printing, Bengal, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 8th July, 1891.

Mr. J Petty, Deputy Superintendent, Presidency Jail Press, is appointed to act as Superintendent, Government Printing, Bengal, in addition to his own duties, during the absence, on leave, of Mr E M Lewis, or until further orders.

Mr Syed Ameer Hossein, C I E, Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, is allowed leave for one month, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 22nd instant.

Moulvi Abdul Jubber, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnah, is appointed to act as Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, during the absence, on leave, of Mr Syed Ameer Hossein, C I E, or until further orders.

Babu Nobin Chunder Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on excise duty, Monghyr, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the afternoon of the 5th May, 1891.

Mr A G Hallifax, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Patna, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Behar sub-division of that district, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Mr Hallifax is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector.

Babu Sree Ram Moitra acted as a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade at Alipur, in the district of Jalpaiguri, from the 2nd August 1890 to the 21st April 1891, both days inclusive.

Mr Surya Kumar Agasti, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, held charge of the Chuadanga sub-division of the Nadiya district from the afternoon of the 21st January to the forenoon of the 2nd March 1891.

The following promotions and confirmations are made in the Executive Branch of the Provincial Service:—

Confirmed in the third grade.

Babu Tariny Kumar Ghose, with effect from the 16th April 1891, vice Rai Gunga Nund Mukerjee, Bahadur, retired.

Promoted temporarily to the third grade.

Babu Okhoy Kumar Sen, with effect from the 16th April 1891, vice Babu Tariny Kumar Ghose.

Confirmed in the fourth grade.

Babu Mohim Chunder Ghose, with effect from the 1st December 1890, vice Babu Kristo Kumar Sen, retired.

Babu Rajani Kumar Dutt, with effect from the 16th April 1891, vice Babu Tariny Kumar Ghose.

Promoted temporarily to the fourth grade.

Babu Chunder Narain Gupta, with effect from the 1st December 1890, vice Babu Mohim Chunder Ghose.

Moulvi Mahomed Abdul Kadir, with effect from the 16th April 1891, vice Babu Rajani Kumar Dutt.

Confirmed in the fifth grade.

Babu Prosonno Kumar Dutt, with effect from the 1st December 1890, vice Babu Mohim Chunder Ghose.

Moulvi Mahomed Serajul Huq, with effect from the 16th April 1891, vice Babu Rajani Kumar Dutt.

Promoted temporarily to the fifth grade.

Babu Girendra Nath Chatterjee, with effect from the 16th April 1891, vice Moulvi Mahomed Serajul Huq.

Confirmed in the sixth grade.

Babu Basanta Krishna Bose, with effect from the 1st December 1890, vice Babu Prosonno Kumar Dutt.

Babu Priya Nath Mukerjee, with effect from the 16th April 1891, vice Moulvi Mahomed Serajul Huq.

Promoted temporarily to the sixth grade.

Babu Purna Chunder Bysack, with effect from the 1st April 1891, vice Mr Donald Sunder, on deputation.

Moulvi Syed Mahomed Nusseeruddin, with effect from the 16th April 1891, vice Babu Priya Nath Mukerjee.

Confirmed in the seventh grade.

Babu Purno Chunder Chowdhuri with effect from the 1st December 1890, vice Babu Basanta Krishna Bose.

Babu Jamini Mohan Das, with effect from the 16th April 1891, vice Babu Priya Nath Mukerjee.

Appointed temporarily to the seventh grade.

Babu Chandi Churn Chatterjee, with effect from the 20th April 1891, but will continue on deputation as Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal.

JUDICIAL.—Babu Radhica Lal Satyar is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Old Maldah Independent Bench, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Babu Nitynanda Bhar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bishenpur, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr A G Hallifax, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Behar, Patna, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

Maulvi Syud Obedullah, an Honorary Magistrate of the Bench at Perosepur, in the district of Backerganj, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

In the exercise of the power conferred by section 26, subsection (1) of Act VII of 1889, the Lieutenant-Governor invests the undermentioned officers with the functions of a District Court under that Act within the local limits of their respective jurisdictions:—

Babu Upendra Nath Dutta, substantive pro tem. Munsif of Gangajalghatti. Babu Protap Chandra Mazumdar, Munsif of Bishenpur. Babu Bidhu Bhusan Chuckerbutty, Munsif of Kotulpur.

Babu Pran Krishna Biswas, Munsif of Khattra. The undermentioned officers are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class—

Mr. Basanta Kumar Mullick, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Chittagong.

Mr B B Newbould, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Lohardugga.

The undermentioned officers are vested temporarily with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class—

Mr C H Bompas, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Midnapur.

Mr J H Temple, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Burdwan.

Mr E P Bhopman, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Patna.

The undermentioned officers are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class—

Mr J G Cumming, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Midnapur.

Mr D H Lees, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Hughli.

Mr J Lang, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Gya.

Mr H A Boyd, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Cuttack.

Mr J E Philimore, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Sarun.

Mr C A Radice, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Tipperah.

Maulvi Mohammad Habibullah, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah.

Babu Bissessur Chattacharjee, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serajganj, Pubna.

Babu Ram Lal Das, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Bankura, to be ordinarily stationed at Kotulpur, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Bidhu Bhusan Chuckerbutty, or until further orders.

Advertisements.

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JOHN COWIE.

Secretary to the Corporation.

The 18th June, 1891.

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Dr. Ward Cousin's Ear Drums for Deafness.

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AGENTS.

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